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Alfred RUSKIN Logs: 1914 - 1918.
HMAS Sydney: April 1914 - April 1916.
HMAS Brisbane 30th. Nov. 1916 - 30th Jan. 1918.

Log of H.M.A.S. SYDNEY
April 1914.

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I joined the Sydney from Garden Island in April 1914 and started my Commission very good with 5 days Leave, the watch on board coaling the ship, ready to proceed to Singapore to escort the two Submarines to Sydney. We stayed 10 days in Singapore and then we left for Batavia. Leaving there for Port Darwin the People there gave us a great time.

May the 4th we left for Cairns where we got another run ashore. On leaving Cairns we fell in with dirty weather and put into Morton Bay for Shelter, for the strain was too great on the submarines, Weather abated so we left for Sydney arriving on Sunday about 8 A.M.

We then refitted at Garden Island but we did not complete our defects owing to the Admiral requiring us for the Northern Cruise. We left for Townsville and it was there we first heard that Germany had declared war with Russia.

Friday Aug. 1st. and things were looking grave for the Great Powers.

Aug. 2nd. Coaled Ship to our utmost capacity and again the next day.

3rd. at 3 A.M. HMAS Warrego & Yarra joined HMAS Sydney at Townsville and Oiled Ship straight away from the SS "Cyrena" who had orders given to her that she would have to remain at that port.

4th. News was received that war had broken out between Great Britain and Germany. The Sydney and two destroyers proceeded to Thursday Island arriving during the night.

On our arrival we picked up the SS "Physa" Oil vessel

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and the Signal Station asked us our name. Orders were given for the SS "Physa" to switch off all her lights and to remain in absolute darkness. At daybreak the Ship proceeded into Thursday Island and made fast alongside the pier and Everything that was moveable and not required was placed under the Charge of the District Naval Officer and all Boats with the exception of 2 cutters which are used as life Boats at Sea.

Saturday 8th. Sydney and 2 destroyers departed from Thursday Island to join the Flag ship H.M.A.S. Australia with the Parramatta also in Company, we also took the SS "Physa" with us, but owing to her great draft of Water we had to Anchor by Raime Entrance of the Great Barrier Reef.

Sunday 9th Aug. At daybreak weighed Anchor and sent the Physa to Port Morsby, during the afternoon we sighted the Australia and Parramatta and proceeded to New Britain German New Guinea arriving there on the 10th. It was reported that the China German Squadron was under the Command of the Vice Admiral in the "Scharnhorst" with two more Cruisers in Company. Each night all the Ships were in darkness. At daybreak orders were given for Battle flags to be flown this being two big White Ensigns on the foremast and one big white Ensign and the Australian flag on the Mainmast, half way down and lashed to the Masts with wire. It is to be considered this a Great Praise that the Australia has been doing as regarding Vessels of War. The Australian Fleet whatever was done so they would have fought under two flags. The flag of England and the Flag of Australia. This being a thing that has never been done before in the History of the World.

Tuesday (11th) at 6 P.M. the order was made for us with the destroyers in Company to proceed and attack Rabaul we steamed past the Australia at 20 knots in line ahead. The Admiral wished us Success saying "I have my entire Confidence in you" at the same time the men on board the flagship gave

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us three cheers on account of the daring attack we were about to make, while the Band of Australia played God Save the King, Advance Australia, Rule Britannia which made every man feel like a prince of Steel wire. At 9 P.M. the Sydney and destroyers in complete darkness arrive at Rabaul and the

destroyers recognoitre the Harbour but came out again reporting no ships inside, we than steamed at 18 knots through the different passages to Talali another harbour, but a thing that seemed very strange was that every Strait we went through in the darkness so there was a light or a fire lit up giving warning that we were coming. At Simpson Haven there was no signs of Ships so we came Back to Rabaul. 12th Aug. On arrival at Rabaul the Warrego was sent in with orders for the Governer of Rabaul to Surrender and cease using Wireless messages, or the Town would be Bombarded, There was a party under arms and a flag of Truce sent on shore to find the Wireless station but it appeared to be away in land. We then proceeded to Vaudiville a town further along the coast were we had suspicions and made for the post office and cut the Telegraph and Telephone Wires and dismantled the Instruments which we took on board, and stopped all communication. The Austrailia remained at one entrance and Encounter at the other, during the time the Encounter was patrolling the Southern Entrance a Steamer came in sight, Encounter challenged her and by all appearances It was the S.S."Nambise" chartered by the Germans, a prize crew was placed onboard from the Austrailia and sent to Thursday Island as a prize of War, under guard of the ?

13th. The Squadron proceeded to the North Solomon Islands which belong to Germany and the Sydney reconoited the different Islands in Bouganville Straits and just close enough to Touobia Hafen to look inside to see if there was any ship inside belonging to the Germans while the Flagship waited 15 to 20 miles

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away. These attacks and recognoiting straits is very dangerous because It is impossible to say that the Ships may be in hiding and could open fire on the Ships or otherwise fire a torpedo, all these are to taken into consideration. The German Fleet who we are hoping to Capture consisted of the "Scharnhorst" 1st. Class Armoured of 11,350

tons, speed when built 23 Knots now about 20 Knots and "Graismon" same class as the "Scharnhorst" also a smaller ship Nuremburg of 9250 Tons Speed 21 Knots now 18 Knots, Scharnhorst flagship of the German Squadron under a Vice Admiral.

(Rumoured) The Emden engaged and sank a Russian Cruiser off China.

14th. Arrive Rossel Island N.W. of British New Guinea and met the Melbourne, Encounter, and destroyers with a collier waiting for us. The Austrailia Steamed on to Port Morsby - on our arrival we went alongside the Collier and commenced coaling and finished Sunday 15th. taken in 1130 Tons of Coal. By day and night the destroyers in turns patrol the north of the Harbour to see if danger lies within a certain Area.

16th. Sydney R Patrol Duty.

17th. S.S. Physa arrived and went alongside Melbourne and discharged 250 Tons of Oil Fuel, Yarra went the other side and received Oil Fuel, Parramatta Patrolling 15 miles north of Reef. Melbourne finished Oiling Ship she sailed to join the Austrailia at Port Morsby while the "Physa" came alongside Sydney to discharge 250 tons of Oil Fuel, The Warrego the other side and received oil, All Ships darkened at Sunset, Guns Cleared away ready for Action.

The Collier Alconda Sailed during the day Bound for newCastle N.S.W.

18th. Sailed From Rossel Island at 5.30 AM. for Sandy Cape Queensland, to Meet the SS "Berrima" enroute for Thursday Island.

Destroyers proceed to Port Morsby to protect British New Guinea.

Austrailia Melbourne leave to Escort New Zealand Troops to

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Samoa Island, which was under German Protection.

Encounter remains at Port Morsby until arrival of destroyer under command of Commander D.

The Ship Convoying SS"Berrima" with Troops from Austrailia to wait Orders at T.I.

Speed made good enroute 13 Knots per Hour.

19th. At Sea. War Routine carried out. Guns and Searchlights manned. "Lights out".

20th. at Sea. at daybreak smoke appeared on the Horizon we alter course to see what it was, a steamer bound South, it was made known that it was the Nambise under Prize crew bound for Sydney. A Prisoner of War to be handed over to the Prize Court to be sold, or disposed of in anyway they think Best, For a Sum of Money according to the Value of the Ship and her cargo.

Forenoon Land sighted that was a sure sign that we were going in side the Reef to try and find the "Alconda", For if she should proceed to Manilla (Phillipine Islands) they will be taken on Suspicion for

Traitors and lose all claim, so the Amount of Coal taken by the Sydney and Melbourne receiving direct orders to Proceed to Sydney.

21st. Arrived at Hervey Bay, Sandy Cape and Anchored.

Awaiting arrival of SS "Berrima" with Troops for German New Guinea.

Encounter left Port Morsby to join Sydney on her voyage north to T.I.

11 PM. SS Berrima left Moreton Bay for Sandy Cape.

Australia and Melbourne arrive at Noumea New Caledonia to meet and escort the New Zealand troops to Samoa to take possession and Hoist the Union Jack.

Noumea a French Settlement was once a Convict Settlement same as Port Arthur Tasmania, now strongly Fortified.

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Saturday 22nd. 1 P.M. Weighed Anchor and proceeded from Hervey Bay to meet SS "Berrima". 3.30 pm. Sighted smoke on Starboard and when closer, she sent her name, and we found it was the Troopship of the P&O line and at 6 P.M. we joined company enroute for Thursday Island.

P.M. Darkened ship and Cleared for Battle.

Received orders from Sydney to proceed to Townsville and coal ship and the SS "Berrima" to Palm Island and join Encounter who was awaiting orders.

23rd. 7.10 AM. Stopped to communicate with boat to SS Berrima who came very close to us.

Sydney giving necessary orders, received mail ect.

7.45 AM. Sydney & Berrima again in company proceeded at a speed of 16 knots to pass through Whitsunday Passage before dark.

6 PM. reduced speed to 11 knots and sent our trooper on to her destination.

24th. 6.30 AM. arrived at Townsville and proceeded inside the harbour and made fast to jetty.

9 AM. we commenced coaling from lighter alongside.

Coaled sip 500 Tons at the rate of 52.5 per Hour.

This was very good Coaling considering the way the coal lihter was rigged.

6 PM. finished coaling - washed down decks.

Carried out usual routine.

25th. Landed every available man comprising two Battalions for route march (for Exercise)

Battalion returned 11.15 AM.

1.4 left Townsville and proceeded out of harbour enroute for Palm Island to meet HMAS Encounter and SS "Berrima" to await orders.

5.30 PM. arrived Palm Island.

26th. Awaiting orders P.I.

Landed Parties for Exercise.

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During night Ship sighted demanded her name Reply SS "Mourylan" belonging to Howard Smith Comp'y, (You may proceed) Left for South.

27th. Sighted Steamer at once demanded. Reply SS "Marloo" Adelaide Steamship Comp'y, Left for South.

2.20 PM. SS "Musgrave" sighted and left for South.

28th. Flagship and Melbourne & Troopships Arrive at Samoa.

The Town Surrendered without opposition.

Troops landed and Hoisted Union Jack of Olde England

Flagship and Melbourne leave for New Britain to take Rabaul, Simpson Hafen, Vaudiville

29th. Troops landed for drill. PM. Night Defence carried out

30th. Sighted SS "Aldenham" coming round P.I.

Boarding Officer was sent aboard, during the time she was approaching she sent the Signal (I am the bearer of Important despatches) She came close to await orders and left for Townsville.

P.M. Night defence.

11.30 PM. Arangi arrived with Stores and provisions and mails.

31st. Provisioned and Stored ship from Arangi.

during the day SS "Kurude" & "Musgrave" passed.

1st September H.M. Customs Steamer carrying 71890 lbs of Beef & 43 Tons of Vegetables for "Berrima"

2nd. Usual Routine. AE 1 & 2 Join Fleet.

3rd. Sighted Ship during early hours of the Morning and we used every possible means to demand her name but received no name which was reported along the coast by Wireless giving Longt. & Lat. and the speed at which she was travelling, for the Authorities to investigate.

4th. Proceeded through Cook's Passage and made straight for Port Morsby.

4th Forenoon sighted "Physsa" Bound for Townsville from Port Morsby.

PM. Sighted Land ahead which Papua British New Guinea

HMAS Warrego night Patrol.

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4th. 6 PM. Yarra to relieve Warrego on Patrol.

Proceeded to inner harbour where the following ships were anchored

2 Colliers, 2 Oil Vessels, Parramata, Kanowna, who had 800 Troops on board for Rabaul

Proceeded alongside Collier and commenced coaling (820 Tons) Warrego came alongside

Submarines went alongside Oil vessel.

Encounter, Berrima, Arangi anchored in outer Harbour

5th. Encounter supplied Kanowna with fresh water

6th. The following ships leave for German New Guinea

Murex, Forlonga Oil vessel and 2 Colliers, 2 Submarines

7th. Took on board 50 Troops to land in Herbertshohe

8th. HMAS Parramata with Convoy proceed to Rossel Island to meet Flagship on her way back from Samoa

PM. Submarine reports slight defect Encounter left to look after her

9th. AM. eased down to 10 Knots to allow Encounter and AE 2 to join Sydney

Sighted Austrailia who was steaming to Rossel Island to join Rear Admiral received Captain on board Flagship

PM. Destroyer sent ahead to scout

10th. Sydney and destroyer left Flagship to land Troops and make second Attack on Rabaul. Speed 14 Knots

11th. Early morning made Moonlight attack and landed troops Warrego & Yarra enter Simpson Hafen Parramata Talali Harbour

After the Attack the Naval Brigade was discharged to the destroyer and landed at Rabaul & Kababoul afterwards we landed a Party off Herbertshohe, who took possession of that Protectorate and Hoisted the Union Jack

8AM. The Flagship was sighted coming to assist in operations

8.55 AM. Flag chased a Steamer proving to be a prize

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The Wireless station resisted very strongly firing at our Naval Brigade from Trenches, the Berrima was at once ordered to land troops to reinforce the Naval Brigade but up to this time there was only one wounded and that being a German who was taken onboard the Warrego, during the afternoon the fighting still ensued, and so far we had, 1 Lt. Commander. 1 Captn. and 2 A.B.'s killed, and 1 Lt. & 1 AB wounded, Orders were Given for us to land field Gun and ammunition which was 100 rounds of Shrapnal, Lyddite, Cannon.

The Deputy Governor sent a message to say that he was not in a position to surrender anything as the Governor was away and by all appearances he was entrenched at Kababoul at the place operations. (Capt. Prochly who was doctor of the R.A.M.C. was shot while attending a wounded (German who is now captured,

(This was a very cowardly action and against all International Laws firing on the red Cross.

"Kababual" Place of operations where about 1200 Troops and all stores was landed from the Berrima at Herbertshohe

The Fleet was ordered to Bombard if the opposition did not stop before Sunrise.

The bodies of Lt. Comd. Ellwell & Capt. Prochly were convoyed on shore from Berrima for interment at the Cemetary at Herbertshohe

Courtney ABn. RNR and Moffet was buried at Kababual

Lt. Bowen & 1 AB wounded were taken onboard the flagship.

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The Parramata Captured 10 German Schooners and told them that if they tried to escape they would be sunk,
On Arrival of the destroyers at their respective places they were ordered to sweep round for mines

Reported all Clear of Mines

Parramata searched stores for Contrabans, and found Wireless gear which was taken onboard Parramatta at dusk.

8 P.M. A German prisoner was brought on board and searched and was found to be the leader of the German forces he was placed in Cells onboard the ship and we had considerable trouble with him

Berrima Closed on flagship for the night

Sydney & destroyers patrol for the Night.

12th Sept. Information received from one of the prisoners who was detained in camp that all Germans were to wear a green band on both arms and natives were strictly ordered not fire on anybody wearing these Badges.

R.A. Sent orders that if opposition did not stop at once he would Bombard the ridge from Herbertshohe to Kababual, and make him surrender.

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A German Prisoner was caught whilst trying to put a detonator to a mine had his arm shot of by one of the Warrego's Crew

Late in the day another received the same fate

During the night several shot were heard caused by people not answering the Challenge

The places of Operations were Papartova, Rura, Raluana, Kababual
The Governor being at Tona Sept. 12th 8 PM.

All available Troops were landed from Berrima who at one took up operations.

The Troops were at Nunapopi South and East of Kababoul waiting for the troops from Herbertshohe to march on the rear of the German forces and surround them, they were reported to be 5 to 7 miles inland and also around the Wireless Station laying in ambush

The most important part of this attack was watching the Trees where the natives had climbed up to shoot down our troops as the marched past with spears Bows and arrows and Rifles

Troops marched of in different directions during the day rifles shots were heard at Kababaul

The German Troops at Kababoul surrendered and gave up the Wireless Station to the Australian Infantry

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The Main Body marched off in the other direction taking with them the Field Gun with a good supply of ammunition and Stores, to Rabaul

At Rabaul the place is fortified where operations have been taking place,

There was an armed party landed but they had soon to be reinforced by the main body where if these do not surrender the fleet will at once bombard them.

During the Afternoon HMAS Melbourne & Encounter and her convoy arrived and proceeded into Rabaul while the Warrego & Yarra were at Kababaul receiving prisoners, or any wounded

Sydney and Berrima were at Herbertshoche attending to the troops discharging stores

The Warrego & Yarra conveyed the troops to Herbertshohe which was not garrisoned.
The despatch messenger was sent to the Governor with despatches to surrender Rabaul but he could not give a definite answer until tomorrow at noon

At dusk we weighed anchor and Patrolled all round, afterwards anchoring round a small Island at the entrance of Rabaul
Australia and Melbourne Coaling

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Every thing quiet for the night
Our Killed and wounded up to the present until the whole place surrendered

8 Killed & Wounded Germans 87 Killed out of about 500 - 600 Troops who had been landed by the Sedluty a German Liner

Sunday 13th. Proceeded into harbour and prepared for Coaling Sydney and Encounter coaled and filled right up to our uttermost. Protector reported from outside she had captured a small schooner Steamer with German and native troops onboard or receiving the same

Parramatta proceeded to take over the prisoners during the meantime while the Parramatta was going out she tried to get away from the Protector who fired two shots into her from her four inch Gun and the Parramatta brought her into harbour

Despatch messenger sent to Governor to carry out order of Brigadier General & Rear Admiral

Final Answer Received
The German Navy surrendered Rabaul, Kababaul, Rabuana, Herbertshoche, Rura, Lettick, Rapuratana
All German forces were ordered to disarm at 3 o'clock
The R.A., General and Capt. in full dress uniforms

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Landed and read the Declaration and Hoisted the U. Jack in the principle city of German New Guinea (Rabaul) The flagship fired a salute of 21 Guns when the Jack was broken and flying.

New Guinea is now a Protectorate under King George V
During the afternoon fierce fighting again took place between our troops and the Germans and native forces. The Enemy who commanded the W.T. Station refused to surrender it.

At Toma the Enemy had to retire as they were outnumbered and our field Gun doing very good work
Also a field gun and 120 Troops were sent to Encounter to reinforce all Herbertshohe where all the stores were landed.
Encounter receives orders to proceed to Herbertshohe

Monday 14th. After the Governor Surrendering the troops Broke out again at daybreak and was advancing on our troops and base at Herbertshohe
The order was given for the Encounter to Bombard the German lines
The Encounter fired in all 48 Lyddite shells causing great damage to the Enemy, range varying from 6000 to 9000 Yards

Sydney proceeded to Herbertshohe and received 9 Prisoners of which 2 are officers

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The Capital of New Guinea is Rabaul

The Government seat is at Rabuana and about 1½ miles from the main road is the Government House which is a very pretty spot and well situated Estate with Gardens and Drives

All this is now Destroyed

It is reported that a German Cruiser is try to land Troops which is impossible owing to our torpedo Boats and Submarines who are patrolling outside

Sydney takes up scouting duties and is in high hopes that the German will come our way and she will receive a lively Time for about 1 Hour

Grantala the Hospital ship arrives which will prove a great blessing to the wounded.

She having nurses and doctors and all the necessary appliances on board for their benefit

Coal Ship 7 AM. finish 9 PM.

Sunset. Ammunition supplied to all Guns and ready for emergency

Tuesday 15th. Sept. Commence Cruising round the Island in search of the A.E. 1 who is reported missing from dusk on the 14th.

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Every Harbour is being searched by the Sydney and destroyer but no trace of Her being found

We came across a sailing boat with about 16 natives in it we fired across her Bows with a rifle, Of which they took no notice only to get out their oars and started to pull as fast as they could for the shore

A second shot was fired through there sail and then they all jumped overboard and left their boat.

We went alongside but found nothing

Sydney continues her search for A.E. 1

News received that the Yarra reported having struck an uncharted Rock bending her Port propellor & Centre shaft lossing her Propellor which put her out of Action

Received orders for Sydney to proceed South to dock Coal Oil and provisions ready to escort Convoy Consisting of 40 1st. Class Steamers to Aden

Sunset. Night defence station all night

French flagship Montcalm arrived at Rabaul

16th. Nothing heard of A.E. 1 Grave hope are feared among the Fleet that she has founded, struck some unknown reef

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Parramatta & Warrego, Yarra are still searching but no news

17th. 3.30 PM. sighted Flagship who has come across to pick us up

Proceed south together

10.15 PM. turned about and steamed for Rabaul after covering a distance of about 750 miles south

17th & 18th. Steaming along with Flagship at a speed of 15 Knots

19th. Arrive at Rabaul

Collier Wandgape came alongside and we started Coaling

While the Murex came along Port side and gave us Oil Fuel

Ships in Harbour Montcalm French Flagship R.A. Encounter, Protector, destroyers & Sub
A.E. 2

Rumoured that a Steamboat with a small Gun onboard sank A.E. 1 but not official.

The Submarines should not be allow to go out by themselves but should have a parent ship with them

Sunday 20th. Clean ship and pipe down

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21st. draw provisions from Arangie and prepare for sea under Sealed Orders.
11.30 AM. Weighed anchor and proceeded on our journey

22nd. At Sea

23rd. Landed sighted on Starboard Hand (Ger. Guinea)
Carried on until we reached Berlin Roads afterwards recognizing Berlin Harbour but there was only a schooner inside, and no hope of the Condor, Comet, or Planet of 1600 Tons armed with small Guns and attaining the speed of 12 Knots.
Alter our course and steer for Anghar

Thursday 24th. At 11.30 Am. Crossed the Line

25th. Usual Routine - Nothing Sighted

Saturday 26th. Sighted Anghar Island which is a small Island south of the Pelow Group about 5 miles long and 3 miles wide
Situated on this Island is the Phosperus Company and a Second Rate W.T. Station
At 9.30 Am. sent a cutter with landing party in charge of Lieut. Bill Salter to take and destroy W.T. Station
No resistance was giving

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The W.T. Station was destroyed, Oil Engine, switcher, and everything of use broken and part of the Motor was brought on board

11.30 Proceeded on our journey

27th. Usual Routine - Nothing sighted

28th & 29th. Austrailia at Whuben Hafen and Landed Guard

30th. Arrived at Rabaul, Coaled & Oiled, Provisioned.
Flagship arrives during the day

4 PM. SS Koolonga Sailed for Sydney taking 19 Prisoners.

Thursday 1st. Oct. Fleet proceeds to sea to search for Enemies ships, again the little Sydney heads the line and leads the line into Action if we should meet the Enemy

Ships 4 Cables apart - Sydney, Montcalm, Flag, Encounter
Leaving Fantome, Protector, 3 destroyers A.E. II At Rabual as Guard

2nd. Received Order from Admiralty London
Return to Rabaul and await Orders after covering the distance of 130 to the North.
11 PM. Proceed to Sea
Flag, Montcalm, Sydney

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4th. Encounter Berrima Protector destroyers A.E. 2 - Colliers Oilship Hospital ship and Auxilaries and Captured Craft proceed to the Barrier Reef.

Some unknown ship or Station on shore reporting our movements and also the resistance at Herbertshohe and that 19 Prisoners were taken and had been sent to Sydney.
Ships at 5 miles apart commence searching operation and Close in again at dusk.

Sydney takes station ahead of line

5th. Still making good our journey
9.15 Flagship fired 1 round per gun for Test
Sydney fired 1 round per gun for Test also
Range - Flag 6 Miles - Sydney 4 miles

6th. Running down past Solomon Islands
Montcalm has hot Bearing in her Engine - delayed.

7th. 5 Miles apart running for New Hebrides

8th. Owing to rough weather Encounter and A.E. II anchor at Hebrides for the night

9th. Open 5 Miles apart

10th. & 11th. Usual Routine

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12th. Arrived at Suva.

On arrival received news from shore that the Enemy ships Scharnhorst and sister ship was steaming about side the harbour a few days ago trying to pick up the Eastern Telegraph Companies Cable.

Being unable to pick up with grapnel so the ships steamed away disappointed

All the white people and natives prepare for an attack by landing parties from these ships and built up barricades of sand surmounted by bags of sand so as to be able to fire at the boats so as to stop them from landing, also constructing a couple of forts of 4 six inch Guns, these are not ready. on arrival in the inner harbour all the piers and front were thronged with the Citizens & natives who at the time felt quite safe

A^USN Steamer Leouke arrived and went alongside the Pier to take in cargo & Mail for Sydney

13th. Usual Routine

14th. Provisioned ship also Cleaned and painted ship which was very badly wanted.

15th. Warrego arrived at Suva and anchored between the ship and pier

During the Afternoon the Encounter with Company was sighted and proceeded into harbour. The "Esturia" Oilship proceeded alongside Flagship and also Kauri Collier

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Flagship commenced coaling and at 1 O'Clock it commenced to rain very heavy

Sydney prepared for Coaling

Collier Mellina came alongside and we commenced coaling at once 5.30 P.M.

16th. received Order to raise steam and proceed to Fanning Island where S.M.S. Neunberg is supposed to have cut Communication and Cables

P.M. Reported Cables all correct also the Comet German steamer 335 Tons was captured this being the 5th one added to our list of prizes

Oil vessel arrived from Port Morsby received orders to proceed to Sydney and coal ect.

To Join H.M.S. Minatour and Melbourne to assist in Escorting Convoy to England at 5 PM. we weighed anchor and proceeded to Sydney at 14 Knots

20th. 3 A.M. Sighted Sugar loaf Light House

11 P.M. Communicated with Sydney Heads

21st. Arrived Sydney went alongside Garden Island
discharged 1 Torpedo and old Stores proceeded to dry dock

22nd. In dock. Cleaning and getting ready for Trip.

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23rd. Come out of dock and go alongside wharf for Oil, proceed to Garden Island.
draw stores & provision and Coal Ship.

24th. Employed as yesterday

25th. Left Garden Island and proceeded out of Harbour

26th. to 30th. At sea during which time we sighted a few steamers who we challenged one was very
slack in answering so we cleared away our Starboard Battery and got up ammunition during which one
shell was dropped from the upper deck back into the shell room - all's well

31st. Arrived at Albany and proceeded up the Harbour

On arrival Melbourne and Convoy were lying at anchor and in the inner was the H.M.S. Minatour
Coal ship 750 Tons

Sunday 1st. [Nov.] 5.40 AM Proceeded from Albany to outer Harbour we reduce speed to await
Convoy

The R.M.S. Orvieto in Command of Convoy who gave the necessary orders & formed into 3 divisions,
1st. divn. coming out first second & then the third and formed up on the Starboard beam.

The New Zealand Contingent forming astern of the Australian ships.

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Positions: Minatour 3 Miles off Convoy

Sydney 2½ Miles on Port Beam

Melbourne 2½ Miles on Starboard Beam

During the Afternoon we passed French liner.

The Escort was in complete darkness

The Convoy had their Navigation Light showing

The N.Z. Contingent astern in Complete darkness

Making our way to Fremantle we pick 2 Troopships and Japanese Escort who join us from that port
Enroute for Columbo.

2nd. Exercise Gun Crews at General quarters and prepare ship for Battle once again owing to a certain
amount of fitting being replaced in Sydney for while we were in dock unaware of war routine.

Gun Crews sleeping around their Gun all night with ammunition supplied already for use and one Man
stationed at each gun for Orders.

3rd. Sighted Troopships Medic & Ascania and Japanese Battle Cruiser Ibuki & HMS Pioneer

Orders were given to Pioneer to Proceed to Fremantle by Minatour.

Medic & Ascania 2nd Division

Ibuki Star. Beam

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4th. 9 AM Mangonia NZ Troopship asked permission to quit line for operation for appendicitis and
rejoin the Fleet later

Flag approved - Mangonia left Line, Melbourne left behind to protect her in case of attack
later we sighted her coming to join Fleet

5th. NZ ships a long way astern of Stations Minatour steamed through the Line signalling for ships to
close up on their appointed Stations.

during the day smoke was sighted on the Port side

Melbourne was ordered to take observation to see if anything turned up

during the afternoon smoke was sighted astern and to starboard which was the R.M.S Osterly with the Fantome's Crew on board and Valuables. She caught up to us and was ordered not to more than 40 to 50 Miles away and should she sight any of the Enemy ships to report at once and fall back on Convoy at full Speed

The Escort will at once engage the Enemy the Osterly to be used as a decoy as she can attain the speed of 20 Knots

This being the area in which the S.M.S. Emden is operation and sinking Merchant ships

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and sending the Crews into British ports as there is no German Port to which can send them

6th. At Sea: Exercise Gun Crews

7th.

Sunday 8th. 6 AM Convoy eased down to 7 Knots to allow Minatour and Melbourne to communicate with each other

6.15 AM Minatour turned 16 points and went back to Melbourne and made the following

"I have to Carry out some other Important Service - I wish you all Good Luck & God Speed"

with the same the Melbourne took Command and took station ahead of Convoy

Increase speed to 10 Knots Convoy in complete darkness owing to passing Cocos Island in case any Enemies Ships were there to report our movements.

9th. During the Early hours of the Morning we received a message from Cocos Island that there was a strange Man of War in sight and cruising about for the purpose of landing a party to destroy W.T. Station

at 7 O'Clock we left Convoy at a speed of 20 Knots making for Cocos Island and after steaming as hard as ever we could for about 2 hours we sighted Smoke and then steamed straighted for it this proving to be the S.M.S. Emden with a captured Collier SS Buresh

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Nov. 9th. During the early hours of the Morning we received a Message from Cocos Island that there was a strange warship cruising about for the purpose of destroying the Wireless Station. At Seven o'clock we left the convoy travelling at 20 Knots making for Cocos Island, and after steaming for about 2 hours we sighted smoke of the starbord Bow so we altered course and made straight for it and found it was the Emden with her Collier the Buresh which she had Captured, We came within range and the Emden opened the Ball at 10,000 yards the shot passing over the fore Bridge - the way the Captain handled the ship was splendid and from 9.40 AM. the firing became very hot and furious - all the time we were chasing the Emden northward and now we got our range bring down her fore mast and shot away her fore Bridge and her after Funnels one after the other and silencing all her Guns but we had hard luck with our torpedo which ran short. She is now a complete wreck and making for the Island and ran aground on the reef - a few hours before a smart ship and now a mass of twisted steel and the deck like a slaughter house.

Our losses 2 dead, 5 Seriously wounded & 8 wounded slightly and the only damage that she did to us was shot away one range finder on the fore Bridge and destroyed the midship control and one shot passed through the forecstle deck down in the Boys messdeck and destroyed the tables and stools and nearly all the Boys Kits.

One passed through the engineroom hatch and out through the shipside in the Commander's Cabin.

One shooting away our exhaust to Atmosphere on No.3 funnel and schattering Bits of shell all over the deck and setting a pile of Cordite on fire.

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We are now chasing the Collier Buresh but were too late as they had opened the inlets and kingston valves and Broken the spindles so that she was slowly sinking so we took the prize crew of her and put 4 6 inch shots into and that was the end of her, we now steam Back to the Emden she still had Her flags flying and would not surrender so we signalled to her but got no answer so we opened fire in all 4 Broadships she then hoisted a white flag forward and hauled down Her flags as a token of Surrender.

We then steamed Back to pick up the Boats we had slipped to pick up the men in the water, when we got them onboard they were both badly wounded and had been in the water from 11 AM this makes 6 hours they had been swimming about, their story is as follows: They had been blown overboard when one of our shells struck the deck and exploded.

We then sent two Boats to the Island and told we would return in the morning as we were cruising round all night in case there happened to be any other ships about.

We then proceeded to Cocos Island to find out about the Germans landed to destroy W.T. Station At 7PM. Colours halfmasted and we buried Petty Officer Lynch, Able Seaman Hoy and Ord. Seaman Bell with full Naval honours.

Note: Our Battle was fought a White Ensign and Union Jack and the Australian Jack.

1.15 Steaming slowly along we heard another man shouting in the water who was another victim reported blown overboard and also made the statement that their own officer had fired at them and tried to riddle him with Bullets while in the water.

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Results of Sydney Firings

1st.	Broadside	Emden's Q.D. and Guns	Blown away
2nd.	"	foremast	shot down
3rd.	"	Bridge and one funnel	shot down
4th.	"	Another Funnel and part of her deck	shot away

The salvos now became very furious and accurate and the General destruction of the Enemies Guns and her Crew and ship by fire and explosion and to save her from sinking she was run ashore.

Tuesday 10th. Proceed Boat to Direction Island and anchor and send in two boats and 30 men fully armed to ascertain what damage had Been done
Just after they landed a steam pinnace came off to the ship with the Governor and doctor to give Reports.

The following signal was received from our Guard that there was no Germans on the Island but they had destroyed the W.T. Station and the Cables.

About 50 of them landed and tool 4 Maxims and said that if we landed any men during the night they would have opened fire on our Boats (But not doing so they took a small schooner and made off with 2 month provisions) so our cutters came back to the ship and the 1st. Lieut. reported that they were waiting for us to land last night with 2 Maxims on the pier and one to the right and one to the left so that just as our men were landing they would have opened fire and wiped the lot out in a couple of rounds.

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We now weigh anchor and proceed to north Keeling Island where the Emden was and on arriving she had the distress signal flying so we hauled close up and anchored and Communicated by boat to render all the assistance possible.

We then sent Both Cutters over to find out how many survivors & wounded and received the signal that out of 460 there was 150 remaining 280 thus Killed or missing.

The Captain was asked if he would give his parole and word of Honour we would then take them onboard and make for Colombo to which he agreed

So we commenced bringing of the wounded and survivors. The Captain was the last to leave he was quite safe and uninjured also was Prince Hohanzolle the Kaiser's nephew.

It was a Ghastly sight to all onboard how our lyddite shells took effect so we were all day getting the wounded off to the ship the after part of the ship was being full of them and the doctors were kept very busy and several men were told to offer help

The Captain wished to set fire to his ship to Burn the dead and to destroy the most ghastly sight I have ever seen.

There were also some wounded men on the Island which we sent boats in for with fresh water for which the Germans rushed as they were parched after nearly two days with out water there being none on the Island

I regret to report that A.B. Reginal Sharp passed peacefully away at 2.15 P.M.

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It was impossible to take anything but water to the Island as we did not think that we should stop there all night but we made the best of it by lighting fires and knocking down cocoanuts the mild being given to the wounded who were almost mad from thirst some being 30 hours without a drink. There was three men assistance was given too and so we searched although the Island all night the brush fires we lighted gave great assistance.

Daybreak 11th.

We sighted the ship steaming towards us and getting close in she sent a cutter to us with a stretcher in charge of Lt. Garcia and a German Officer as inteptr

Mr. Garcia and the German officer comenced to walk round the Island over rocks and pebbles in search of three wounded who were about 5 miles away

It was very interesting to hear how the German sailors spoke of the action the splendid way our ship was handled and how Capt. Von Muller had all his ships company aft and gave them a speech saying you have no fear if it is one of the Austrailian ships Melbourne or Sydney I can sink them in 40 minutes which was not done

If it is a Japanese we will make of as soon as we can.

The Boats return on board with the last of the wounded and we weigh anchor and leave for Colombo.

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Sunset 2 Germans are buried with Naval Honours.

12th Thursday

Doctors very Busy

Capt. Muller & Prince Franz Joseph Von Hohanzolle went round visiting the wounded and sick

The Prince very able to speak English spoke our wounded and expressed his sincere thank for the way their men getting treated.

We are anxiously waiting the Empress of Asia who is coming out to meet us with doctors and medical Stores. 11.30 PM sighted Empress of Asia. She had orders to proceed to North Keeling Island and Guard the Emden to stop anybody from taking anything from her and to see the crew that landed at direction Island did not return.

We then proceeded to Colombo to land prisoners and join Convoy who wished to Cheer us but owing to the wounded the Captain steamed clear to avoid it;

Sunday 15th. Nov.

We landed in Colombo and started to disinfect the ship provision and Coal 900 tons and prepare to leave for Aden.

Some of the New Zealand ships had probed a head and arrived in Colombo before the Sydney and broke out cheering before anybody could stop them

The distance from Albany 3.355 Miles

The remainder of the Convoy arrived Sunday Afternoon.

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!st & 2nd Austrailian & N.Z. [division] Left on Tuesday 17th.

3rd division P.M. " " " "

The following Congratulations were received -

Sect. State of Colonies; Gov. Gen. Austrailia; Mayor of Hobart; Ist Lord of Admiralty;

Mayor of Port Nelson; V.A. Patrey; Chamber of Commerce Hobart & Bundaberg ..?...?;

HMAS Melbourne; HMS Encounter; Australia; New Zealand; High Commissioner Poepa Suva and

Liverpool; German Naval Office N.G.; Union Club Sydney; Consul Gen. France; Melbourne Club; ...?..

Club; Consul Gen. Japan; Sailors Home Sydney; Prime Min's. C..?

Thursday 19th.

Sydney left Colombo for Aden.

21st.

Passed Convoy and a collision occurred between two Transports the "Shropshire" & Axaminos - damage not serious - 2 men overboard, both saved.

24th.

Sydney arrived in Aden commenced coaling immediately on securing a buoy (native labour) but owing to it being too slow the ship's Company had to help them

Distance from Colombo 2100 Miles

Left Aden same morning having taken 680 Tons of Coal

26th.

Sighted and closed Dutch steamer and sent an armed party in boat to search (Nothing doing)

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28th.

Arrived at Suez 3.0 PM.

Commenced trip through Cannal as soon as Pilot arrived on board

Started 3.30 PM. Saturday and arrived at Port Said 2 AM.

29th.

Started 7 AM. to coal finished at 11 AM. Native Labour 600 Tons

Distance from Aden 1,400 Miles

Left Port Said for Malta

Every Merchant that we pass Congratulates us.

December 1914.

1st. At Sea Routine as Usual

2nd. Arrive at Malta coaled on Arrival with 800 Tons.

Distance from Port Said of 80 Miles.

Admiral Limpers [?] Governor and French Admiral from the French dreadnought Jean Bart visited the Ship

Had dockyard men repairing slight defects

Took in winter clothing and Stores

3rd. Left Malta for Gibraltara

6th. Arrive at Gibraltara, secure No. 5 Buoy

Distance from Malta 980 Miles.

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7th. Sydney went alongside dockyard wall dockyard hands commenced work

A new after Control was built and a Bend round the most where a limp had been chipped out by a Shell and the decks had to be filled in where they had been splinted by shell fire.

During the stay at the Officers & Captn. were given a dinner and although it did not terminate until 11.30 PM. there was a large crowd waiting outside to cheer them and who took the horses out of the shaft of the Cabs and dragged them down to the Gates.

Took in 380 Tons of Coal

24th. Christmas Eve.

Left Gibraltara for the Azores, had a rough passage for a start.

Christmas day passed under fairly favourable conditions. Everybody enjoyed ~~themselves~~ their Xmas dinner but (Very Dry)

28th.

Arrived at Ponta Delgada San Miguel Azores 7.45 AM. Our reason for being round the

Azores was owing to Portugal, we thought that she may participate in the War and we were after the Merchants.

Received news that Portugal would not take part in the War.

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Left Ponta Delgada 4 PM.

29th.

Arrived Horta Fazal Island - took in 480 Tons Coal

30th.

Left Fazal Island after spending 32 hours in Harbour. Just as we were leaving Horta Sydney received a message to say a merchant ship was on fire at sea approximately 90 Miles away and required assistance. Owing to the rough weather it was only possible for us to do 4 Knots and as it was one wave come on board and absolutely tore both our Blasts sirens clean out the decks. Later received news to say ships crew had got fire under

Arrived off the Island Flores Azores at 9 AM. 31st. as soon as we had passed the Island we were informed that Bermuda was our destination.

January 1915.

When the old Year went out and New Year came in and the Capt. struck 16 Bells the men who were on deck and at the Guns wished him a happy New Year and he returned the Compliment.

Experienced very bad weather the first half of the voyage. Second half the weather abated.

16th. 11.45 AM. arrived Bermuda.

Distance from Azores 2776 Miles.

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The Governor of Bermuda visited the Ship.

Coaled taking in 750 Tons

8th. Left Bermuda for Jamaica. Had a very good passage down. Could not understand it why we were getting fine weather.

On the way to Jamaica searched Trucor's Island found nothing

12th. Arrived Jamaica at 10.30 AM.

Distance 1,310 Miles

Coaled 350 Tons

Governor visited Ship

Report of Distance run and coal used etc. up to [?December) 31st.

Days in commission	553
--------------------	-----

" at Sea	271
----------	-----

Total distance in a Commissioning	57,360 Miles
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" " " War	26,286 "
-----------	----------

Coal taken in Commission	23,330 Tons
--------------------------	-------------

Oil Fuel Burnt	1,400 "
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Revolutions for Shaft	67,000000
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" for four "	268,000000
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One thing was very noticeable about the W.I. Natives, they are very intelligent, they all speak English. As we stand in to Jamaica a crowd of small boys swam out to meet us

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Singing it is along way to Tipperary

We had great pleasure in seeing a fight between two native Girls the method of fighting differs from ours. They bang their heads together and bit one another.

Embarked 13 natives as trimmers for Bunkers.

Ship open to visitors.

13th. 6 PM. Left Jamaica.

Arrived at San Juan - Puerto Rico 4 PM. 15th.

Our orders were to wait outside as it was believed that a German ship the 'S.S. Fran' intended sailing. The Fran was originally an English ship but was captured by the Germans. All ships entering or leaving were closed and inspected by Sydney.

16th. Left 8 AM. for St. Lucia.

17th. 1.30 AM. arrived at Port Costries - St. Lucia, went alongside pier. Commenced Coaling on Monday morning. Native labour - Women. Coaling took 421 Tons. Distance from Kingston and patrolling in situ St. Lucia 1260 Miles.

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19th. Left St. Lucia and soon after we left we received a Wireless message to say that the Governor of Monserrat had drifted out to Sea in a small sloop named Southern Cross.

Sydney was ordered to keep a mast look out.

Later received another Message to say the Governor had been picked up by the "SS Balanta" as the steamer towed the dismasted sloop in to Harbour with the Governor on board, the natives went mad with delight and gave the Balanta a rousing reception.

The Sydney now set her Course for San Juan again.

20th. Arrived at San Juan

Distance 280 Miles

From the Inside the 3 ships we were watching Fran, President, Odenwald could be seen

Sydney patrolled out side stopping all ships

The U.S. fort ashore ordered us to show our colours (no notice taken)

27th. Arrived at Port de France - Martinique

Distance from San Juan and patrol 4,584 Miles

Oiled Ship - 614 Tons.

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The French Cruiser Descartes was in dry dock after being in collision with the SS Lorenzo

The SS Lorenzo's fire compartment they found filled with cement so that the act looked intentional

Governor of Martinique visited Ship.

February 1915

2nd. At 3 PM. left Port de France as soon as the Sydney Cleared the Coast the Ship's Company were informed that the Ship was bound for the North Coast of South America as a strange war ship had been sighted there.

4th. 11 P.M. sighted and closed on French cable ship "Poriyer Quartier". The Sydney communicated with her by Boat. It appeared that a passenger on a dutch steamer had made the report so not much faith was put in it

At Eight PM. same night Sydney arrived off the Paramaribo River she then altered course and steamed along the Coast of Cachipore [Cassipore] River Brazil.

6th. At 6 PM. arrived off Cachipore River and anchored for the night. The sea around us was aglow with phosphorescence and a distance of 8 miles could be seen easily when the ship was under weigh the bow wave made a tremendous sight.

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7th. Early morning got under way same night Sydney arrived of Carapaporis Channel between Maraca Island and Brazil and searched every where but nothing could be found.

After searching the Sydney steamed along the coast off Brazil, Venezuela, French & English Guana passing close to Devil's Island of French Guana

9th. At 7,30 PM. arrived off Paramaribo river expecting to pick up the French Cable Boat again but did not see her Sydney sets her course for Trinidad

10th. At 5 PM. arrived at Port of Spain Trinidad
Total distance covered since leaving Martinique 1,980 miles.
A peculiarity about Trinidad is that it simply swarmed with Jelly fish.
Whilst in Trinidad the Black ..?.. Band came on board and played for one hour, all the latest ragtimes and Tipperary must have been sung at least a dozen times.
Governor of Trinidad visited the Ship.

12th. 3 PM Left Trinidad for St. Lucia

13th. At daylight arrived Port de Costries - distance 218 miles
Coaled 816 Tons

16th. Left St. Lucia carried out some firing tests in the forenoon. 5PM proceeded towards Barbados at 3.30 PM that evening received orders to proceed at full speed to a rendezvous North of Paramaribo Brazil

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Information had been received to say a German supply ship intended meeting the Kronprinz there as Sydney nearest the Rendezvous she prepared for action.

20th. At 9AM arrived at the rendezvous Lavendeira reef Cape St. Rugui - but nothing doing.
Distance 1926 miles
Patrolled in the vicinity until 3 PM when the ship proceeded south to meet SS "Alcantara" outside Permanbuco.

21st. At 2 PM arrived off Permanbuco [Pernambuco] Distance 210 miles
News had been received that a raid was intended on the Mail Packet "Alcantara" so the Sydney intended to escort her to see if anything doing. The Mail Boat arrived Permanbuco about the same time as the Sydney. Capt. of Sydney ordered the Capt. of Alcantara to collect what information he could and transmit it to Sydney on leaving harbour.
At 6 PM. the Alcantara came out of harbour and reported to the Sydney that a raid was intended on her when she arrived in position Lat. 7 S. Long. 34W.
Alcantara steamed through this position with the Sydney hanging on, but there was nothing doing. Everybody was very disappointed.

22nd. At 10 AM. parted company from the Alcantara and proceeded for Lavendeira Reef as we were very short of Coal in fact we hadn't got 100 Tons on board
1.30 PM. arrived at Lavendeira Reef. Distance 210 miles.

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24th. Collier Fullerton arrived and secured alongside Sydney. As we had a large amount of coal to get in than we ever had before, Capt. and Officers and everybody coaled. The heat was terrific but the ship's Company stuck it well not one fell out.
While coaling Aux Cruiser Edinburgh Castle and another Collier SS "Thornhill" arrived.
The E. Castle patrolled while Sydney coaled. Sydney took in 1,080 Tons of coal.

26th. At 8 AM. weighed and proceeded close up to E. Castle and 2 Colliers for fresh provisions.
E. Castle 2 Colliers sailed at intervals during the day so as to be 20 miles apart.
Sydney had to remain behind to send down divers to Clear her inlet valves as they had got choked owing to very shallow water we had been steaming in when searching round Carapaporis Channel.
Sydney eventually ~~arrived~~ sailed at 11.45 AM. Passed the sternmost Collier at 4 PM. and got in station by 5 PM.

The Plan arranged was for the E. Castle, Thornhill, Fullerton to sweep south in a line about 20 miles apart.

27th. At midnight course was altered to South. This brought the sweeping ship from line ahead to line abreast 20 miles apart. Swept South to Abrolis Rock off Brazil (nothing doing)

March 1915.

Tuesday 4th. At 6 AM. arrived at Abrolis Rocks found HMS "Carwana" "Vindictive" there in charge of a large convoy of supply ships HMS Carnarvan had struck an uncharted Rock of Rio de Janeiro.

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Distance covered sweeping 1,407 Miles.

Coaled 514 Tons of Coal

Rear Admiral Stoddart hoisted his flag aboard Sydney at 9 AM. ~~Sturday~~ Saturday 6th.

~~Sta~~ 6th. 10 AM. Sydney as Flagship. E. Castle & 2 Colliers sailed from Abrolis Rocks to sweep north, at 2.30 PM. the same day "Sydney" received a wireless message to say the SS "Rumura" was be chased by a suspicious ship who had a tramp steamer in attendance. "Sydney" raised steam for full speed in record time working up to 23 knots in 20 minutes. The SS "Rumura" was then 180 miles away. About an hour later a second W.I. message was received to say the suspicious had turned round and nipped at ..?

Everybody was very disappointed.

She had evidently heard the merchant ship send her message for help and bolted, Sydney then turned round and joined the remainder.

9th. Received orders to proceed to Trinidad Island off Brazil and have a look round.

11th. Arrived Trinidad - nothing doing - return to Abrolis

13th. 7 AM. arrived at Abrolis Rocks (? 3,301) Commenced Coaling finished 6.30 AM. next morning took in 600 Tons.

Distance during sweep 1,736 miles

16th. Took in Oil and more stores.

17th. Sydney, E. Castle & 2 Colliers & Macedonia left Abrolis to sweep north to Lavenderia Reef, coal and then return East and sweep in that direction. In doing this the sweeping ship would pass through the area the Kronprinz

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had been reported to be working in.

18th. Sydney received orders to sweep in that direction south.

Thursday the R.A. Gave the ship's Company a lecture on the Falkland Island Battle; swept south until parrallel with Monte Video then turned west and proceeded to Monte Video.

28th. Sydney and 2 Colliers anchored in Sanbornor Bay, outside Macedonia & E. Castle we ordered to sweep South to an old German Rendezous, to see if there was anything doing. ~~There was nothing~~ Sydney took in 610 Tons of Coal and then proceeded up harbour, distance covered sweeping 2,340 miles.

29th. 11 AM. arrived Monte Video. The British Patriotic Society presented Sydney with some much needed green stuff, potatoes, fruit, also plenty of books and papers of which the officers had the pick, the remainder we shared with the Colliers.

30th. At 9 AM. left Monte Video, picked up the 2 Colliers outside. Stopped engines and gave Colliers fresh provisions and part of our present ~~with the~~ afterwards proceeded north to Rio Grande-de-Sol to pick up Macedonia and E. Castle.

31st. Returned Rio Grande and picked up Aux. Cruiser.

April 1915.

1st. All ships sweep north. Macedonia ordered to sweep north and search Santa Catherina [Catarina] Nothing doing.

Sydney arrived at Santa Catherina, all ships sweep north

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6th. 10.45 AM. Sydney arrived Rio Janeiro. the remainder to sweep north to Abrolis Rocks. Rio is a beautiful harbour and it is hard to say which is the better Sydney or Rio, Sydney is a natural harbour whereas Rio constructed.

Distance from Monte Video 960 miles.

Left Rio same day at 5 PM. Got a tock of matches into ship.

7th. Picked up HMS Glasgow. Ordered her to take station on us.

8th. Arrived Abrolis Rocks, distance from Rio 428 miles. Coaled with 640 Tons.

10 PM. Sydney, Glasgow, Macedonia left Abrolis Rock in sweep north to the Equataor to a position where a German supply ship had been captured by HMS Liverpool, Canarvon left Abrolis to protect supply ship.

11th. 6.30 AM HMS Vindictive joined up with sweeping ships. Sydney 2 Colliers ordered to follow up behind escort of armed merchantman "Celtic"

13th. 10 PM. arrived Rendezous after crossing the line at noon the same day.

distance 1360 miles upto 12 midnight.

Received message to say that Kronprinz had ..?. in Neusport .?. Accordingly ordered sweeping ship to close in Sydney and whole proceeded to Rocas Island.

15th. At 2 PM. after crossing the line at 10 PM the previous night. Whilst at Rocas Island the Liverpool and Gloucester joined up with captured German ship SS "Hendrich"

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Armed merchant ship Louremic arrived Rocas Island.

16th. At 9 AM Admiral Stoddart struck his flag in the Sydney and hoisted it in the Liverpool. During the forenoon HMS Liverpool and Gloucester sailed for England.

Louremic for Sierra Leone.

E. Castle, Macedonia 2 Colliers sailed for Abrolis, Collier Thorn Hill was ordered to Lavenderia Reef to await Sydney.

17th. At 8 AM arrived Lavenderia Reef. distance 120 Miles. Coaled 508 Tons.

5.45 PM left Lavenderia Reef for Trinidad, owing to a sick case speed had to be increased.

22nd. 7.15 PM Arrived Trinidad, took in oil. Distance 1743 miles.

24th. Left Trinidad for St. Lucia.

25th. 8 AM arrived St. Lucia. Distance 218 miles. Coaled 640 Tons.

Governor of Windward Islands visited ship.

Stop 8 days in harbour and thoroughly Cleaned ship and painted.

May 1915

Monday 2nd. Received mail from Australia and England (75 Bags) the first mail 5 Months from England and 7 months Australia.

At 10 AM left St. Lucia proceeded up around St Thomas & San Juan & had a good look around (Nothing doing)

7th. Arrived in Kingston Jamaica 11.0 AM.

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Distance 1293 Miles. Coaled 430 Tons. Ship's Company Coaled started 5.30 PM finished 12.30 PM.

HMS Leviathan arrived during the night with V.A. Sir George Patrey.

Sydney gave a concert at Wards Theatre in aid of Jamaica contingent funds 36 Hours General Leave. Proved a great success also the Melbourne's in aid of same.

18th. Left Kingston to do Practice firings.

4.45 PM same day anchored at Port Antonio distance 88 miles.

Carried out firing next day and proceeded inside the Harbour at 5 PM and anchored.

The people of Port Antonio proved to be very generous, immediately we had anchored boats came out full of Bananas and some Cigarettes and cigars.

Sailed next day after doing some firing left for Kingston.

21st. Arrived Kingston (104 miles) Coaled Ship 286 Tons.

27th. Left Kingston and carried out Battle Practice firing, as soon as firing Sydney set course for Havana Cuba. Arrived at Havana to prevent a German Merchantman from sailing, News had been received to say that the Germans had sold her cargo so it was no longer necessary to patrol. As soon as the Sydney had given the "Descartes" she proceeded North to the Bahamas.

31st. At 4.15 AM. arrived at Nassau in Providence Island Bahamas. Distance 1,142 miles.

The people of Nassau were most Patriotic they could not do enough for us, They had provided a good dinner and Concert on shore for 300 Hands but the Capt. would not allow the men ashore.

There was a great demand for Cap ribbon and post cards of the Ship.

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June 1915

Wednesday 2nd. At 7 AM Left Nassau and proceeded South via San Salvador Island to Kingston Jamaica.

4th. Arrived Kingston 1.30 PM. Distance 658 miles took in oil and Coaled 487 Tons.
(Night leave)

10th. Left for Strain Gut Bay to carry out Torpedoes Practice firing, during the firing the Sydney lost one of her torpedoes, sent down the diver and after 11 hours it was found.

12th. At 1.30 PM Arrived Kingston (116 miles)

14th. Left Kingston for British Honduras (night leave)

17th. Arrived Belize ?. British Honduras. Distance 655 miles received presents of Bananas, Cigarettes, from British people ashore. Had plenty of visitors onboard. (Leave for CPO only)

19th. Left Belize for Kingston.

21st. Arrived Kingston. Distance 680 Miles took in oil and Coaled 460 Tons.

23rd. Left Kingston for Trinidad

26th. At 6.40 AM arrived at Port of Spain Trinidad 978 Miles.

27th. At 5 PM left Port of Spain arrived off St. Lucia noon

28th. picked a rating who had been sick at Monte Video.

6 PM. arrived at Martinique French West Indies. Distance 248 miles found HMAS Melbourne there, Turned over orders to Her. Coaled 280Tons.

30th. At 1.30 PM left Martinique for Bermuda.

Report for 2 Years Commissions

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Days in Commission	734 days
" at War	407 "
" in Tropic	331 "
Total Distance Travelled	83,000 Miles
Distance run per day since Commissioning	115 "
" " " " at Sea	209 "
" " since War	53,930 "
" " per day	164 miles
" " at sea	217 "
Coal taken in	32,924 Tons
" Burnt	32,470 "
Oil Fuel Burnt	2,269 Tons
" " " .?. since Commissioning	48 "
" " " since War	65½ "
Total water distilled for Ship	6,984 Tons
" " " " Boilers	6,314 "
Total Water distilled	13,298 "
Revolutions per Shaft	
" for four Shafts.	

July 1915.

Sunday 4th. Arrived Bermuda (distance 1140 miles)
Went into the floating dock Friday 5th.
Underwent Annual Refit.

August 1915.

Saturday 7th. 6 AM. left Bermuda.

9th. Arrived at patrolling Area of New York U.S.A.
Distance 145 Miles.

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Relieved HMS Berwick and Commended Patrolling Zig-zag Course by day.

17th. 1.0 PM Relieved by HMS Suffolk.
Distance Covered whilst Patrolling 147 Miles.

Friday 19th. Arrived Halifax Nova Scotia
Distance 599 Miles. Coaled ship 910 Tons and Oiled ship 180 tons.

22nd. Monday. General leave from 1.30 PM until 7 AM. Tuesday Port watch.

Wednesday 25th. Vice Admiral Sir George Patrey Inspected the ship, Rig of the .?. No.5
(General Drill & General Quarters) General Leave for Starboard Watch 1.30 PM until 7 AM Wednesday.
This being the first opportunity the Admiral had of visiting the ship since we left him last Oct., he had great pleasure in thanking the Ship's Company for the services rendered in the Pacific & Indian Oceans.
Left Halifax 6 PM. for Patrolling Area New York U.S.A. The Weather was very foggy, and the fog increased as we went down the harbour until we could hardly see a cables length in front of us.
6.35 PM [25 .?.] Collision between Sydney and ferry boat loaded passengers, horses and carts and Motor Cars. Majority of Passengers were cool, one or two wished to get below and 2 women fainted.
We asked the ferryhand if he required any assistance, Reply No, but a few minutes reported she was sinking fast. Called away all Boats crews and sent all boats to render all assistance possible, Ferry ran ashore, nothing doing for our boats. Fog increased so we anchored so as not the bump anymore boats.
10.20 PM. fog lifted got up anchor, and got under way.

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27th. Proceed to Patrolling area off New York and relieve HMS Carnarvon.
Distance from Halifax 613 Miles.

September 1915.

3rd. 7 PM. Whilst patrolling the liner St. Paul called up Sydney and reported a woman overboard, Sydney immediately switched on all Search lights and commenced sweeping, found body shortly afterwards floating face down, Body passed about 10 yards from ship, men ordered not to jump overboard.

Called away life boats crews and dropped Cal. Bouy. Unable to find body although they searched for one hour. Wake caused by ship must have caused body to turn over and sink. Reported accordingly. Received message of thanks from Capt. Lucas St. Paul.

Sund. 5th. Relieved from Patrolling by HMS Carnarvon. Distance covered Patrolling 2454 Miles.

7th. Arrived Halifax 613 miles. Coaled with 900 Tons.

HMS Argyll arrived previously with Bullion from England from America.

Sund. 12th. 6 PM. left Halifax

14th. ? AM Arrived at Patrolling area off N.Y. Distance 613 miles.

Relieved HMS Carnarvon. Commenced Patrolling.

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Nothing worth reporting happened whilst patrolling. Distance covered 609 miles.

Relieved of Patrolling by HMS Cumberland

Friday 17th. 7 PM set course for Halifax.

Sunday [19th.] 10.15 PM Arrived at Halifax. Distance covered 603 Miles.

Went alongside of Jetty and Coaled with 415 Tons S.S. Bullmouth Oil Tank lay alongside.

20th. Left Halifax for Kingston Jamaica and run into very Rough weather the first two days, the remainder of the trip uneventful

Quarterly Report

Days in Commission	826		
" At Sea	437		
" in Tropic	333		
Total distance Steamed	95,320	Miles	
" " since War	64,250	"	
Coal taken in	35,720	Tons	
Oil Fuel " "	2,533	"	
Water distilled for Ship	7,579	"	
" " " Boilers	6,886	"	
Total	14,445	"	
Revolutions for shaft	111,950,000		
" 4 shafts	447,600,000	revs.	

October 1915.

Monday 4th. 1.20 PM. Arrived Kingston Jamaica distance 1790 miles, Coaled with 665 Tons. Stayed 9 days in Kingston and gave 36 Hours Leave to both watches.

13th. Left Kingston for British Guania [Guyana] via Curacas.

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Saturday 15th. 4 PM. Passed Curacas Island (Dutch) very pretty place.

19th. 1.5 PM. Arrived Demerara Distance 1378 miles

Owing to shallow water anchored 9 miles off.

20th. 1.20 PM. Left Demerara British Guiana.

Thursday 21st. 4.52 PM. Anchored off San Fernando Trinidad

Friday 22nd. Carried out Torpedo Practice in the after forenoon. Anchored La Bide Trinidad carried out more Torpedo firing in the Afternoon, Anchored off San Fernando in the evening.

23rd. 7.30 AM. Left San Fernando and proceeded to Port of Spain.

8.40 PM. arrived at Port of Spain. Distance since leaving Demerara 361 Miles. Took Oil fuel 59 Tons.
Thursday 26th. Left Port of Spain.
27th. Finished Gunnery Practice and proceeded to Port Costries St. Lucia.
Distance covered since leaving Port of Spain 250 Miles. Coaled with 750 Tons
Saturday [28th] Left St. Lucia.

November 1915.

Monday 1st. 4.15 PM. Arrived Kingston Jamaica. Distance 950 Miles.
Coaled 400 Tons. Oiled ship 89 Tons
and gave a concert in aid of the Red Cross Funds, the Program was a great success but the amount gathered was only 20£.
Gave General Leave.
Monday 15th. left Kingston Jamaica. 9.30 AM.

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Monday 17th. Arrived at Progresso (Mexico) and relieved Isis.
U.S.S. Kentucky also off Progresso.
SS. Zealandia was boarded by HMS Isis. America claimed that she was inside the three mile limit. We Claimed that she was outside the three mile limit. The Mexican Government was called in to decide. Result Zealandia won. Our Measurements by range finder gave her 300 yards outside the limit.
Distance from Kingston 804 miles.
20th. Left Progresso.
22nd. Arrived at Belzise British Honduras. Distance from Progresso 513 miles.
The reason for being at Belzise - Revolution between Guatemala and Honduras.
No Troops at Belzise so Sydney was ordered to land armed party if required. (Nothing doing) Gave leave from 4.30 PM. until 9 PM.
24th. 10 AM. Left Belzise Honduras.
Saturday 27th. arrived off Penncola Florida U.S.A.
Distance from Belzise 840 Miles.
Monday 29th. Arrived off Havana Cuba. Distance 497 miles, Patrolled up and down the Coast several times and examined the harbour to verify list of ships interned there, then proceeded to Nassau Bahamas
30th. 11.30 AM. Arrived at Nassau, New Providence Island, Bahamas.
Distance 384 miles.
We gave a concert which was a grand success, and the people went mad with delight and invited the Capt. to try and get there for Xmas or the first week in the New Year which they are going to call Sydney week. The Boy and Girl Scouts could not do enough for us and the people made us very much at home.

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The Governor gave an at home for the officers one day and to the Ship's Company the following day.
Boy Scouts Club open to the Ships Company.
The Governor is a Victorian.

December 1915.

Thursday 3rd. 3 PM Left Nassau Bahamas
Saturday 4th. 4.30 PM. arrived at Kingston Jamaica
Distance 645 miles, Leviathan in harbour.
Admiral ordered Sydney to Coal using Ship's Company's labour, Took in 940 Tons, Terrible Hot weather.
Fruit Merchants of Jamaica presented H.M. Ships with cases of oranges and Grape fruit for Xmas present.
Monday 13th. 2.30 PM. Left Kingston Jamaica
Thursday 16th. 6.15 PM. arrived Progresso Mexico
Distance 815 miles examined harbour and left for Vera Cruz.
17th. 8 AM. arrived off Puerto Mexico = Mexico.
Distance 335 miles examined Harbour and then proceeded
17th. arrived off Vera Cruz Distance 120 miles examined Harbour

18th. arrived off Taxpan. Distance 125 miles examined Harbour, very High winds and rough weather, passed a steamship and put search lights on her for she did not answer our signals (nothing doing)
 2.30 PM Arrived Taxpan examined Harbour and proceeded.
 20th. Arrived off Galvaston Texas U.S.A. Distance 463 miles.
 Arrived off Sabine Louisiana U.S.A. examined Harbour. Distance 60 miles.
 22nd. Arrived off Havana Cuba.
 Distance 764 Miles examined Harbour
 23rd. Arrived Nassau Bahamas
 Distance 345 Miles, Gave a search light display and got all our Xmas gear.

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25th. We had a very good Christmas and the ship's Company were invited to tea by the Governor and Dr. Allbury.
 Monday 27th. The ship's Company Gave sports in the afternoon and a Concert and dance in the night in aid of the Red Cross, Everything a great Success.
 28th. 11.10 AM. Left Nassau
 30th. Arrived at Kingston. Distance 645 miles.
 Coaled ship 1018 Tons of Coal.

January 1916.

A Happy New Year
 Gave General Leave 36 Hours to both watches and had a Glorious time.
 2nd. Conde Left for Martinique on her way Home to France so we gave her three Hearty cheers.
 Ship lay alongside wharf doing minor repairs for 10 days.
 11th. Left Kingston for a cruse round the Mexican Gulf
 13th. Arrived off Colon Panama, saw the entrance to the cannal, examined interned German ship there, proceeded eastward along the coast.
 14th. Arrived off Cartagena in the State of Cartagena Columbia S.America examined German ship and proceeded
 15th. 7 AM. arrived off Santa Marta Columbia S.A. examined interned ship and proceeded
 16th. Passed the Island of Curosa Carribean Sea.
 17th. At Sea.
 18th. Arrived at Grenada the seat of the Governor of the Leeward Islands.

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Steaming Record 1915.
 from date of Commissioning 26th. June 1913
 to 31st. Dec. 1915.

No. days in Commission	918	
" " at Sea		507
" " in Tropics		410
Total distance steamed	106,641	Miles
distance run per day since Commissioning	116	"
" " " " at Sea	216	"
distance steamed during War	75,571	"
Tons per day since Commissioning	147	Tons
" " " during War		216.5 "
Total Coal taken in	38,777	"
" " Burnt	38,508	"
Oil Fuel Burnt	3,149	"
average fuel Burnt since Commissioning	47	tons
" " " during War	55	"
Water distilled for ship use	8,505	Tons
" " " Boilers	7,684	"
Total water distilled	16,189	"
Revolutions run by each shaft	125.1	Millions

20th. Arrived at St. Vincent and stayed 6 Hours and then left for Kingston Jamaica
Arrived at Kingston 3 PM. 24th. (Distance in all 2552 miles)
At 6 PM. oiled Ship 150 Tons Oil Ship "Lucerna"
25th. Coaled ship and took in 600 Tons Collier "Salamanca"
Left Kingston 27th. for Bermuda. High Seas
Distance 1160 Miles.
Ship had to ease down owing the High seas as the water was breaking over the fore Bridge
Revs. 27.8 N?4 296 Light up Boiler for Aux. N.4 ?M. Revs 302

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30th. Arrived at Burmuda, 7.35 AM. Distance 1160 Miles.
At 2.30 PM we went in the floating dry dock for the Sub Annual Refit.
Draft arrived on SS "Chaloria" from Austrailia viq England in all about 70 ratings.
Draft leaving for Austrailia via England 5th. Feb. in all about 36 ratings in Command of Lt. Covey for
duty in Austrailia in SS. "~~Chaloria~~" "Chaleur", for Halifax for England.

February 1916.

5th. Rumoured that a German armed merchant is cruising about the west Coast of Africa, Sub annual
refit cut short Melbourne ordered to Sea under sealed orders.

Sydney awaiting orders.

The sharing out of the Xmas presents from Australia was of a scandalous character.

The W.C. and CPC. and PO. receiving the pick of each case the seamen were served with the
remaining presents and the Stokers had the leavings so by causing great discontent.

The passage in the SS "Chaleura" was of a very pleasant nature. Weather varied from fine to High
seas and Squally intervals, on Monday 7th. we ran in to cold weather this being the coldest weather we
have had for 2 Years so you may guess we felt in pretty stiff and the weather is growing worse.

Routine for the day -

Rise 7 AM. Breakfast, 7.45 AM. divisions, 9.15 AM. prayers, and then drill for 20 minutes, pipe down
quarter 4.30 PM., drill 4.35 PM., pipe down.

Bar open 11 AM to 12 noon - 8.30 PM. - 9.30 PM.

Run for the 7th. 247 Miles.

8th. We had to ease down owing to heavy weather and frost, the for part of the ship had a coat of ice 6
inches thick, distance 150 miles.

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9th. Arrived at St. John's about 9 AM. and we looked more like a ship from the north Pole than coming
from the Tropics. Temperature 4 deg. above zero.

Left Ship about 2 PM. and were boarded at the Grand Union Hotel. The food and accommodation
onboard the SS. "Chaleur" R.M.S.P. was of a rotten condition, being unable to get water to wash or to
get to drink and the berths were like ice chests and were only intended for niggers, the bed covering
being only 1 Sheet 1 Blanket and 1 counterpain, the bed being of straw and very thin.

10th. The people of St. John's N.B. gave us a good reception and we were entertained by the
Daughters of the Empire to Tea and dance, also by the Mayor and Ladies of the City to a smoko which
I must say was a great success, the programe which was of a gigantic scale could not be half finished
owing to so many encores.

And the leading Lady of the St. David's Church Choir sang (Do your bit) with such spirit that any
person there who was fit to do his bit and was unconscious to the Ladies spirit and meaning must have
had a body and Soul of the lowest mongrel spiece [species] and I think it would be far better for him to
take the quickest way across the great divide, than live to face the scorn of after years when the
question is asked what part did you take in the Great Struggle for your Empire's Liberty.

In visiting the various factories in St. John's Great pleasure was shown by our Boys at the promptness
with which their request was granted.

And I must say that the Ladies and Gentlemen and Citizens of St. John's have the proud honour of
being the first Citizens to make us feel at home so far away from our own homes exiled on the
Empire's out post duty and we shall have a life long memory of their Kindness and their Splendid
Spirits during our short stay in St. John's N.B.

11th. Visited the Convalesent Home for returned wounded Soldiers and had a good talk to Pte. Wilson
a returned Soldier who had received 21 wounds, stayed to tea and had a sing song in the night.

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12th. Visited Mr. Chases and had good time and fire side concert. Mr. & Mrs. Chase providing Lunch.

13th. Proceeded on a Sleigh drive but the weather was very cold and we had to give it up 3 Miles out of St. John's, we then returned and went to St. David's Hall where they gave us a reception, concert and refreshments, it was a very good night and the Talent was splendid.

14th. Visited Reading's Brewery and had a agood Time afterwards visited the brush factory and we had some very good sport with the Girls, on this occasion the manager show us round.

Tu.15th. Visited Soldier's Club and had a few games of billiards and wrote a few letters. (This Club is the house that King George V Queen Mary when Prince and Princess of Wales stayed at on their visit to Canada)

7PM. again visited the Convalesent Home for a concert which lasted until 10.30 PM. They was some splendid singing.

16th. Visited Cotton Factory and then the Ammunition factory which was very interesting to us All.

17th. We again visited Mr. Chase's for a farewell Concert and dinner, in all our Party consisted 6 Canadian Soldiers and 7 Blue Jackets. The night was very pleasant and we finished about 2 AM.

18th. We left the Grand Union Hotel at 10 AM. and brought all our baggage and shipped on the SS, "Sicilian" who left Early on Saturday 19th.

19th. left St. John Homeward Bound for England, we are carrying about 200 Second Class passengers and about 400 third [?] Class who are mostly Soldiers wives and friends coming to England to visit their Husbands and friends.

The Weather was of a very rough nature and a high sea was rising and it was very cold, ship being covered in ice and snow, and our berths are very damp and ice cold and every one is complaining of the accommodation.

20th. Very quiet every [one] sick weather still rough, distance run 175 miles.

21st. Weather moderating, passengers still very sick, distance 250 "

22nd. Weather very fine and the passengers are beginning to get about and we have a Sing song at night, distance 247 Miles. (Engines is stoped for about 1 Hour)

So far all is well.

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23rd. The Weather continues to be fine but very cold and we make 250 miles.

24th. We again get into Squally weather and heavy Seas and very Cold.

25th. Weather continues to be very dirty.

26th. The engines are stoped for about 2 Hours a boiler feed check giving out.

27th. Weather moderating and the Submarine Scare begins.

28th. Every body looking out for the escort which did not appear.

29th. We find out that we are not so near the Irish Coast as we thought we was and that we still have a couple of days run to do.

1st. [March] The weather is very wet and we can not go on deck but we gave a concert at 8 PM.

Programe

1st.	Song	Comic	AB Cardomy
2nd.	"		Miss Randell
3rd.	Recitation "Iron Wall's Jellies"		PO. Crawford
4th.	Song		Mr. McLellan
5th.	Song		Sto. Rasmussen
6th.	Song		Miss Parsons
7th.	Recitation		Mr. Randell

2nd Part

1st.	Song	Comic	Stoker Ruskin
2nd.	"		Mrs. Morris
3rd.	"	"	A.B. Young
4th.	Recitation		Sgt. Major Newman (Canadian)
5th.	Song		Miss May Wills
6th.	Recitation		Miss Tucker
7th.	Song		Mr. McLellan

God Save the King.

2nd. We pick up our Escort and arrived in Liverpool about 5 PM. Leave Birkenhead
11.20 PM. same night
3rd. Arrive at Devonport Barracks Exeter, we got tea and Sandwich, we had not a drink in the Train.

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3rd. Friday arrive in Barrack and are sent on 7 days leave but they will not pay until Saturday the 4th. and then only 1£ so we all went and saw Capt. Booth who advanced us 10£. I stayed at Union Jack Club.

During our Leave at the Union Jack Club, Leading Signalman Bailey died of Spotted fever, And Leading Signalman Hughes died at Devonport

We returned at Leave ~~at Leave~~ on the 11th. and put under Quarantine
Sunday we went to Hospital to have our throats tested.

5 men were suspected and sent to Hospital

We are now living in a tent by the water and it is bitter cold and we are not allowed to speak to anyone in fact we are treated worse than German prisoners.

16th. Thursday we leave Devonport Barracks for Portland in the worst carriages that they can find and there isn't a drink of water in the train for the Journey.

We are now in charge of Mr. Harmon W.O.

Arrive at Portland 7 PM. and go straight on board the SS. Ascainus.

17th. Leave Portland 4 PM. for the Cape enroute for Austrailia.

The Weather is very foggy but we are escorted by 2 destroyers.

18th. Weather is fine and about 7.30 AM our escort leave us.

19th. Sunday The Weather very fine Church was Held in the Second Troop deck

20th. Monday

21st.

22nd. Weather very Fine

23rd.

24th. Troops in good Spirits.

25th. Concert was held and proved a very good success.

26th. Arrived at Dachar and dropped Gun.[?] French W. Africa.

All Very Well.

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4th. [April] Sports Potato and Bun Races. At night all dead lights Closed as we are arriving about the Cape.

Prizes given for the Cleanest mess 1£.5

Went to Boat drill Troop in the forenoon and Naval drafting in the evening.

6th. Owing to Complaint against Sgt. Major Jones by Capt's Chaplain the Concert is cancelled.

Weather continues to be fine.

Friday a lecture by Mr. Harmon with reference to leave given in Dureban. [Durban?]

Leave was given from 10 AM to 10 PM. Saturday and all had a very good time ashore.

Leave on Sunday from 10 AM. to 2 PM. Ship left the wharf 4 PM sharp and moored to a bouy in the steam. The doctor and a nurse being very late in getting onboard and were given a cheer. Weather very fine.

12. Weather ~~is~~ very Squally.

Concert at night in which Sgt. Major was again allotted to take part but did not answer his Form. The Capt's Chaplain having recalled his objection

Cigarettes and Cigars and fruit were given by the People of Durban

14th. Weather was very fine and we are progressing favourably

Sunday There was a shock for all hands - they gave us Eggs and Bacon for Breakfast.

Tuesday Fancy Dress Ball which was a great success. The Flapper crowning all by Kissing the Captain.

Wednesday Photos taken in fancy Dresses

Friday A Grand Boxing Contest.

1st Preliminary LS. A.J. Edwards & Sto. Brown. Brown wins.

2nd. Sto. Westerman & L Sto. Gillet. Westerman wins.

Grand 10 Round Contest:

I.Seaman Brown & L.Sto. Abbott Brown wins on Points.

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Good Friday. Church was held in the Salon

Sunday 8.30 PM. arrived at Fremantle - at Anchor.

Monday Doctor came on board and inspected all hands, and the Customs placed all Spirits and tobacco under Bond.

At 9 AM. we weighed Anchor and went alongside the wharf and discharged 40 West Australian Soldiers.

Mr. Harmon WO. Tried very hard to get the West Australians of the Naval draft permission to go on leave from Fremantle.

At 2 PM. we left Fremantle and every body was disappointed at not staying over Anzac Day.

SS. "Ascanier"
Programme of Concert
March 24th.

At Sea.

Piano Solo		Sgt. Nixon
Song	Over the Hills and far away	AB Strongman
Wistling Solo		Corp. Thomas
Song	The Trampster	Sgt. Bell
Humourous Item		Sgt.M. Jones
Song		Sgt. Cullen
Violin Solo		L.Sto. Brown
Song	Chip off the old Block	Lt. Williams
Song		Pte. Windsor
Recitation		Sgt. Blyth
Song	Hills of Rest	Pte. Chapman
Comic Song		Sgt. Crawley
Song	Jones of the Lancers	AB Jones
Song		WO Nyaland
Comic Song		Sto. A. Ruskin

Accompanists

Capt. Richardson
& Sgt. Nixon

God Save the King.

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Programme of Concert Mar. 30 - '16.

Overture		Sgt. Steveson
Song		Sgt. Hughes
Recitation		Pte. Chalmers
Comic Song	I've only come down for the day	Pte. Young
Song		AB. Pullen
Song	A little Bit of Heaven	Pte. Howe
Cornet Solo	Lost Chord	Lt. Crane
Song	Hill of Rest	Pte. Chapman
Comic sketch	Professor Y..?..	AB. Strongman
	Professor Delay action	" Jones
	Miss Pankhurst	Bugler Cheffins
Song		Lt. Williams
Song	Mother McCree	B. O'Brien
Comic Song	McGinty's Party	AB. O'Neill
Song		Smn. Brown
C. Song		Sto. Ruskin
Song		Pte. Matchenson
Song		Pte. Burton
Song		Pte. Caldwell

Accomp. Sgt. Nixon & Steveson.

God Save the King.

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Programme April 13 1916

Whistling Song
Song

Recitation
Song
Violin Solo
Song

Humorous
Song
Song
C. Song
Recitation
Song
Cornet Solo
Song
Song
Song
Sketch

Capt. Thomas
Pte. Cordingley
LCpl. Haine
Sgt. Hughes
LSto. Brown
" Rassmussen

SgM Jones
Lt. Williams
Pte. Caldwell
AB Strongman
Rev. McLean
Pte. Chapman
Lt. Crane
Cpl Saunders
Pte. Schofield
Sgt. Bell

Sto. Brown
AB Jones
[Capt. Richardson
[Sgt. Nixon
[" Stevenson

Accomp.

God Save the King

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Grand Concert April 22nd. 1916

Overture
Recitation
Song
Cornet Solo
Song
C. Song
Song
Recitation
Trio

Song
Recitation
C. Song
Song
Duet

Recitation
Sketch

The Duchess Entertains
Duchess of Brighton
Waitress
Sargeant
Snowy
Possum
Skinny

Accomp.

Sgt. Stevenson
Gunner Bell
Lt. Williams
Lt. Crane
Sgt. Bell
AB Young
Sgt. Hughes
Major Finlayson
[Sgt. Hughes
[Pte Gullen
[" Brudenell
Pte Caldwell
Capt. Maclean
AB Strongman
Pte. Brudenell
[Sgt. Hughes
[Pte. Gullen
Lt. Crane

Sister Quartermaine
Sister Robson
Gr. Ellis
AB Jones
Lt. Williams
Lt. Darbyshire

[Capt. Richardson
[Sgt. Nixon
[" Stevenson.

God Save the King

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Anzac Day 25th. April 1916.

Dinner

Hors d'ouvre (variety) "Lonesome Pine"
Dishes all delightful & appetizing Hunt

Consommé "Sari Bari"
"Soup of the evening, beautiful soup" Alice in Wonderland

Darne de Saumon "Dardenelles"
"There is no meat like them.
I could wish my best friend at such a feast" Timon of Athens.

Noisette d'Agneau "Beachy Bill"
"The ..?.. that they taste"

Filet de Bouef Piqué "Quinn's Post"
"What say you to a piece of beef and mustard" Taming of the Shrew. Shakespeare
Petites Pois "Shrapnel Gully"
Pommes "Johnson's Jolly"

Sorbet au Marasquin "Plugges Plateau"
"Have I dreamed, or is it true" Longfellow

Dindormean rôtie "Hell's Spit"
Thy end is near

Salade "McLagan's Ridge"
Asperges en branches "Gallipoli"
"a table richly spread in regal modes" Milton

Pouding "Courtney;s Post"
Souffle aux Poires "Birdwood"
"Which melt like woman's kisses" Byron

Croûtes de Fois Gras "Bolton's Ridge"
"Fate cannot harm me, I have dined today" Spencer

Dessert "Throssel VC" Café "Turque"
"At last coffee which makes our Politician wise
And see through all things with half shut eyes." Pope

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Weather still continues to be fine and we are making good progress averaging about 320 miles per day.
27th. Weather very wet and miserable, all are longing for Melbourne and relief to receive orders to land
troops 10 AM. Sunday.

This Trip though being my 5th Trip to Australia is the finest passage I have made via the Cape.
So I will bring my Log to a Close.

I am Yours Sincerely
Alfred Ruskin. Stoker .?., H.M.A.S. Sydney.
Vale!

Hundreds of corpses have been floating in the North Sea near the scene of the Jutland Battle.

Washing about in the cold Salt wave, stark in the grim North Sea,
 The corpses of the men who died when the battle flags flew free,
 Briton and Teuton alike at rest, though tossed by the careless wave
 Flotsam adrift from the Jutland fight when brave men fought with leave.
 What matter the flags that above them flew, the name of their native land?
 Each did the bidding of those above, and died that their wills might stand;
 They stood to their great iron-throated guns, when the Battle thunders rolled
 Offering their lives for their Country's sake, bravely as Knights of Old.
 God rest their Souls, for if souls there be they have earned a sweet repose,
 Briton and Teuton who passed alike where the chill, grey sea fog blows
 They passed like men from a world that shrieks for the blood that its best can give
 God send us a better and wiser day when the world wants men to live !

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Officers onboard T.S.S. Ascanier
 Enroute for Austrailia
 From Gallipoli
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[Pages 72 & 73]

Run Per Day			
SS. Ascanier	Bound for Austrailia		
11th March, 1916	From Portland		to Melbourne Austrailia April
17th. " 252	Knots	13th. April	332 Knots
18th. " 326	"	14th. " 321	"
19th. " 330	"	15th. " 303	"
20th. " 330	"	16th. " 314	"
21st. " 334	"	17th. " 320	"
22nd. " 343	"	18th. " 317	"
23rd. " "	341 "	19th. " 323	"
24th. " 151	" Reduced speed to 8	20th. " 326	"
	Knots Per Hour		
25th. " 13	" Leave Dakar W.Africa	21st. " 329	"
26th. " 341	"	22nd. " 324	"
27th. " 323	"	23rd. " 321	"
28th. " 339	"	24th. " "	326 "
29th. " 319	"	25th. " 101	" Arrived Fremantle.
			Left same day.
30th. " 329	"	26th. " 296	"
31st. " 321	"	27th. " 324	"
1st. April	321 "	28th. " 338	"
2nd. " "	321 "	29th. " 325	" Arriving Melbourne
			4PM .
3rd. " "	314 "	30th. " 21	" Melbourne Pier.
4th. " "	336 "		
5th. " "	293 "		
6th. " "	306 "		
7th. " "	312 "		
8th. " "	211 " Arrive Durban		
9th. " "	Durban staying one night		
10th. April	[Durban]		
11th. " 63	Knots		
12th. " "	321 "		

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Price List

Soak Bag	.9	Housewife	1 .4
Bed	10 .6	Jean Coat	5 .4
" Cover	3 .0	" Trousers	4 .4

Belt Cholera		2.0	Jersey		9.9
" waist		2.3	Serge Jersey		10.8
Blanket	16.9		" Trousers	11.9	
Boots Half		12.7	Duck Jumper		4.1
Box Cap		6.9	Knife		1.7
" Ditty		7.6	Razor		2.4
Brushes Clothes		1.7	Cap Tally		.8
" Blacking		.8	Scissors		1.6
" Hard	1.5		Shoes Black		10.6
" Hair	2.6		" Brown	7.6	
" Polishing		1.9	" White		3.0
" Tooth		.6	Soap lb.		.3
Duck Cap		1.9	Socks Thick		1.0
Hat case		1.1	" Thin		1.4
Collars	1.9		Stockings Thick		1.8
Comb		.5	" Thin		1.3
Drawers		2.5	Overalls		8.5
Drill yd.		.9	Duck Trousers		4.7
Duck yd.		1.10	Braces		1.0
Feurnough yd.	2.2				
Towel		1.0			
Flannel yd.		1.8			
" vest		5.3			
Oilskin	15.0				
Shirt		4.3			
Silks		3.3			
Hat		2.9			

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Stop's and Pay received during Commission

14.12.1916		Stops drawn During 1917		Soap
&				
Tobacco				
Date	£ s d	Remarks	Date	s d
Dec.21	3 5 0			
Jan.1st.	5 8 0*	Ending 1916	Jan.1	1 lb Tobacco plug
Jan.15th	3 5 0		" 3rd	4 lbs Soap
Feb.1st.	3 5 0		" 1st.	1 Pr. Boots 12 7
" 15	3 5 0		" "	4 Pr. Sock 4 0
" 28	3 5 0		" 3rd.	2 Black Silk 6 6
Mch. 14	3 5 0		" "	1 Pr White Shoes 3 6
Apr. 2nd.	5 1 0		Feb.1	3 lbs. Soap - - 4lb. Soap
" 14th.	3 5 0	26 Day's Tropic	Feb 6	Blue Cap 1 9
2lb.Tobac.				
" 30th.	3 5 0	29 May 2 ?	April	Bedcover 1 3 0
May 30 "	" "	Suspended	4 yds.	Drill 3 6
June 5th.	4 16 0	plus Expenses	May	1 Duck Cap 1 9
June 19th.	2 14 0			1 White Hat 2 9
Oct. 1st.	6 6 0			1 Pr. white shoes 3 0
- - -			Jun.9	1 Pr. Boots 12 9
- - -			Oct.	1 Bedcover 3 0
Nov.	Bank	Bank £10.15s. 0d.	Dec.	6 yds Serge 12 0
	10 15 0		"	White shoes 3 6
Dec.	14 17 8			
Jan.	4 0 0			

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H.M.A.S. Brisbane

Garden Island Sydney

November 30th. 1916.

I joined the Brisbane at 11 AM. 30th Nov., and during the dinner hour I got my bag and hammock onboard and at 1.15 PM started provisioning ship carrying on work until 5.30 PM. Commenced same work next morning (December 1st.)

This is a new ship and a great improvement on the Melbourne and Sydney, and we are working under a new routine in three watches instead of two, Red, White and Blue, this is a great improvement for the Seamen but not for the Eng. Room. Ratings.

Saturday 2nd. Routine Clean Ship, and Store Ship.

Sunday 3rd. Rigg No.6, Divisions and 10AM Church.

Thursday 7th. Started Coaling at 7 AM. and finished at 4 PM. averaged 115 Tons per Hour (SS. Kanna) Thursday 7th. 1100 tons.

The Captain gave us a speech and said that he was pleased with the Ship's Company and told us that he would give us 24 Hour's or more fair well leave from 10.30AM. Friday the 8th.

Friday 8th. One watch went on leave for 44 Hours.

Sat. 9th. Saturday Routine for Ship's Company, and the dockyard men are trying hard to finish all the work left to finish.

Monday 11th. Prime and tap all Boilers ready for 24 Hour's consumptions trial, leave for Stoker's up at 10 PM.

Light up A Boilers at 2 AM.

Admiral Creswell gave a speech about the ship and the Ship's Company behaviour which up to the Present was Exellent.

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Tuesday 12th. Dockyard's Hands finish work and the Ship leaves Cockatoo Island at 11AM. Amid Great Cheers from the men on the Island who had been working aboard; And all the Ferry Boat's blew their Wistles while the ship steamed round the Island and down the Harbour to Garden Island where the Ship stopped for 20 minutes and the Band Played a few tunes and Auld Lange Syne, as the Ship steamed away we come down the Harbour at a good Speed and about Rose Bay the Steering Gear went wrong and the Ship went within 20 feet of the Rocks and was only saved by the Starboard anchor getting a secure hold, ship went astern and got clear of the rocks and sent for dockyard men to fix up the defects, the ship left about 2 PM and all's well.

Wed. 13th. 2.30 AM. I had the middle Watch on No.3 Boiler in B Boiler Room 2.30 AM. a Tube split in No. 3 Boiler. So we had to shut up the Boiler and draw fires, we were steaming about 21.6 Knots, the Bilge Pump will not work properly so we have to stand in water up above our boots tops. The ship at present seems a misfit.

Thurs. 14th. We arrived at Platypus Bay and Anchored at 10.30 AM.

The Capt. went ashore in the forenoon and the Ship's Company in the afternoon for Bathing Sceening (seine) (catch nil)

Opened No.3 Boiler in B Boiler room to find out the cause of defect, we found a lot of pieces of wood and packing and that 3 Tubes were split and were very thin, We are now going to have a through examination of all Boilers.

All mail under Censor, destination of Ship Unknown.

Distance steamed from Sydney 700 Miles at an average of 20 Knots, We started at 23 Knots but through a series of accidents we had to ease down to 16 Knots.

Coal burnt in Consumption Trial, 24 Hours 530 Tons

Oil Fuel " " " " " 200 "

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On looking round I find that this Ship's Company is formed up from every ship in the Austrailian Navy and all Shore Establishments. Some who have been in quiet billets for about 12 Months or 2 Years and it must say that it comes very hard to some of them who have forgot all about ship life in the Navy. This included a friend of mine Charley Chaplin by name and by nature.

I might mention hear that there is Ocean's of room for improvement in the Ship's Company Menu, as it is a long time between 4PM and 7 AM next day, while keeping a stif 12 to 4 in the meantime or the 4 to 8 on a half a pint of cocoa, going for your life.

Another mishap the Telamotor gear went wrong this being mishap No.7.

We are carrying Mail and a draft of men for the China Station.

Friday 15th. Divisions, Church, Scening Party ashore.

About 3.30 PM a fire broke out in the C. Boiler Room the cause not known at Present but the whole Stokehole was alight and it was impossible to get down, the forehead Bulkhead was red hot in no time and it was almost impossible to get into B Boiler Room, we had to play two fire mains on the Bulkhead to cool it down, but all the electric wire was burnt, we then pump out the bilges and I then went down into C Boiler Room where I opened the Hand-easing gear and released the Steam from the Boilers 1 & 2.

We then drew fires in both Boilers and pumped the Boilers to W.W. and shut off all connections. We lit up 4 Boilers in A Boiler Room and stood by to run the Ship ashore in case we could not get the fire under control, as it was very dangerous being in close proximity to the magazine, and many were ready to jump over the side at the first sound of explosion.

I must say that the Capt. and Eng. Com'd. and all Engineer's Officers present were very cool and were doing very good work and being the first to go in the danger zone.

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About 4.20 PM "B" Bulk head was out and one could go and see what damage was done, I found that the bulk head was all Buckled and burnt.

And in the Tunnel the armour plated deck was all Buckled, in one place there was a lump about 8 inches high as you will see how intense the heat was, the Tunnel was flooded with Water and in some places it was boiling and it was impossible to get along the passage.

I am pleased to say that throughout the whole affair that there was no one hurt with the exception of a few knocks and a bit of skin broken off. Well every think is under control and settled down again, awaiting the next spasarm.

16th. Sat. We are now awaiting orders for the next move which every body is anxious to know as to whether it is North or South.

On opening No.3 Boiler we found that all the internal Gear had to be taken out and Cleaned, and after the inspection by the Eng. Com'd. of all the Tubes, shell and heating surface he is certain that the Tubes was plugged intensetionally . We have now got new tubes in and are about to close the Boiler.

17th. Sunday. Forenoon Watch, Gazed Boiler Relief valves and get ready to put Water Test on No.3 Boiler, and make a Tour of C. Boiler Room were the Damage is estimated at about 7000£.

We found that the fed pipes to Boiler's was split in two places and that all the angle Irons were all bent and out of Shape and that it was impossible to put down the Stoke Hole plates, We have had to rig Temporary Wandering Leads all over the Ship were possible.

Muster by Open list 9,30 AM.

Church 10.20 AM.

Scening Parties at 1.30PM.

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4 PM. No.3 Boiler B'Room stood water Test at a pressure of 350 that is 125 obs. above Working Pressure, O.K.

No.2 Boiler C. Room was pumped W.W. and the air lock shut and pressure put on, but it would not stand above 20 lbs. per (square) inch, (Closed for Repairs)

Now that the Water tight Bulkhead has been overhauled it is found that there is lot of holes been stopped up with putty and painted over which shows very bad Workmanship and carelessness.

There is a Strong buzze that the H.M.A.S. Sydney has been torpedoed in the North Sea.

8 PM. came of Last dog Watch and found that for Supper ½ pint of cocoa that has to last until 5.30 AM.

Monday.

The Ship's Visit to Brisbane is prosoned for an indefinite period owing to the War.

Monday 18th. Calibrated Guns. Fired Round each gun.

Stoker's Complain against having to do Physical drill after coming off Watch, Middle Watch excused (lost Starboard Anchor)

Still awaiting Orders, Crew getting fed up with Suspense.

We had Humming Birds for tea. (Chinese Eggs)

We tested 1 & 2 Boilers in C Boiler Room and found that they were worse than before, and will not stand any pressure so that now we have only 10 good Boilers to steam with.

Officers and Ship's Company played Cricket Match on the beach, the Ship's Company winning by 65 to 25 Points.

Tuesday 19th. Divisions, Church.

We then went to drill Clear Ship for Action, and General Quarters. Well I have been in a few Ships but this is the first Commander that I have found to Study the Stokers health. He just told us our stations and then dismissed us where in the General rule the Stokers are running about turning out Boats, and dropping down rails, and topping Booms,

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or else their are kept fell in until the Seaman are finished, which in the general run is about 11.30 AM or about half and hour before the afternoon watchmen go on watch, leaving them to rush round and get their dinner and shift in a working rig and go down below and slog for 4 hour's, So you can see that 2½ hour's in the forenoon, clear means a great deal to a Stoker.

The Commander read out the Station's and then told us that we should Coal Wednesday and leave Thursday but he did not state where we were going.

We found Starboard Anchor and took it aboard.

Prepared for Coaling and Collier came along side (SS. Kanna)

Wednesday 20th. 5 AM. Started Coaling 600 Tons and finished 10.30 AM. and piped every one aft for a lecture as to where we are going. We leave at 4 PM. and proceed to Palm Island and Coal ship again and Anchor at the Barrier Reef for Christmas Day.

26th. Arrive at Thursday Island and Oil Ship and Proceed to Singapore to Arrive on the 4th January 1917. This is the Progame All Going Well. Oil 240 Tons.

We are all Stoney Broke and anxiously waiting for Pay Day as the Canteen refuse to give Credit and we are short of Smokes and Toilet Gear.

No improvement in the Menu. With the exception of a little Burgue, anyway Cheer up we will soon be dead if we live long enough.

Wednesday 20th. Pick up Collier about 8 AM.

9.15 AM. Went to Divisions and had Church at which we started a new routine issuing Hymn Card's and Singing Hymns. We were then dismissed to take off our Jumpers as the Weather is very, Jumpers are not to be worn unless piped, Went to General Quarter's.

I had the Morning Watch and I must say we had to Slog

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as the Coal is very Bad and it keeps you on the move from the time you go down to the Time you come up while the fans are going full bore. (21st.)

Candidates for Ship's Band are having a meeting on the Well Deck at 12.30 PM. Precided over by the Chaplin.

Distance steamed at 9 Knots, 177 Knots up to 12 Noon 21st.

Again the Watch Keepers are being studided as the Ammunition Supply Party is being supplied by the day work hands. We passed into Tropic's about 7 AM. Which entitles the Stokers to 1/- per day extra while in the Tropics and it is well earned.

We passed Cape Capricorn about 7 AM.

Roll on the time when Some of the Old pensioner's are discharged out of this Navy and things may be a bit cheerful for the younger hands, but at present things are very sad.

We are now very busy supplying Cap Common Shells to all guns for practice, this is the first shell fired as a rule.

Doctor is giving Lecture's on first Aid Work and Stretch Bearing to all Non Combatants.

We were Payed a fortnights Pay £3. 5s. 6d. Ship's Book number 96

Carried out firing with .303 Tubes. Collier towing Target.

The 12 to 4 middle Watch was the Hardest Watch I have had fore some time and I think if I had have had to do another Hour we would never had stuck through it.

The Telamotor Gear Went wrong again and we had to steer by hand gear.

Carried Out General Quarters in Slow time so as to get every one familiar with their Stations.

2nd day in Tropics. 22nd December 1916

The Stokers are told off for their Stations and Quarters in Action and Fire, and Abandon Ship.

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Distance from Noon 21st to noon 22nd 231, to Townsville 101 to go, average Speed 9.6 Knots, Arrived Townsville 7.30 PM.

23rd. SS "Kanna" Collier came alongside and we commenced coaling about 5.30 AM. and took in about 370 Tons of Coal 200 in Bunkders and 170 Tons on the upper deck finished 12 noon, we then Watered Ship.

Before leaving Townsville we Bricked up all furness in C Boiler Room and tried experiments with Oil, as the radius with Coal is not what it ought to be, and I must say that Steaming on four Boilers with Coal alone, She is a Man Killer, for I can say that the men coming of Watch was propely done up. Left Townsville about 6 PM. Steaming North.

Started trimming down Coal from the upper deck 4 PM. Everybody hoping that the Oil fuel experiment proves a Success.

We are still waiting for the Instruments for the Band.

3rd. day in Tropics - another 1/-

24th. Distance Steamed 254 Knots, Average Speed 13.95 to T.S. 403.

Divisions, Church.

All Hands Aft the Capt. read out Two Telegrams one from the Govenor General, And one from the Navy board, And told us that he would serve out Christmas Presents and divide out 135£ which had been sent by the Committe of the Royal Naval House and the Education Committe, works out 6/- Per Head and 12£ Over to be handed over to the Ship's fund.

Died out 1 & 2 Boilers in "B" Stokehole.

4th Day Tropics.

The experiment with Oil proves a Success and makes a great difference in the Steaming of the Ship. One Hand from each Mess to Get up Christmas Presents that were sent by the Citizens of Queensland.

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24th. The presents were served at about 6 PM. and they were very good.

Contents of the Boxes as follows:

one lb Cake, 1lb. Pudding, 1 Tin Sweets, 2 Cakes of Chocolate, 2 Pkts. of Butter Scotch, 1 PKT. Raisins, 1 Tin of Cigarettes, 1 tin tobaco, 1 Tooth Brush, 1 Tin Tooth Powder, 1 Stick of Shaving Soap, 1 PR. Socks, 1 Hankerchief, 1 Lead pencil, and a pipe, a Christmas Card and a few post Card Views of Queensland (and 1 Tin of Cream Cheese)

On listening to the General Conversation of the Ship's Company the presents are a Surprise and in excess of expectations. The only fault being that there was no notes in the Boxes or an address where we could write and thank the Citizens for their kindness, for they Cheer us up at the beginning of our Journey over a long Lone Trail which may take us to the Distant Outposts of this Great Empire or wherever we may be needed to the best of our Services During the Great World's War.

25th. Christmas Day. Divisions, Church Service.

About 11 AM. Anchored off a Small Island of the Barrier Reef and the Hands were piped to Bath. 5th day in Tropic

Menu for Xmas Day.

Breakfast, Cold Ham, and Sheep's Tongue, Rice & Prunes.

Dinner, Roast Beef, Cabbage, Plum Duff, Sauce, Jelly, Custard

Tea, Biscuit and Cheese

We had the privilage to buy one Bottle of Beer 1/-

The Captain & officers With the exception of the Engineer's officers, came round the ship and Wished us a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year.

Pipe down and the Hands started their Enjoyment.

Weighed Anchor and got under Way 9.30 PM. for T.I.

26th. Arrived Thursday Island about 11 AM. and the Oil tank came alongside and we took in ... Tons. Heavy Rain Squall.

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Made out next to Skin ..?.. (NIL) 6th day in Tropic

Ran Short of Bread and Served out Hard Tack, One day a feast and the next a famine and a (Fat Head) from one Bottle of Beer. Leave was piped C.P.O's. and P.O's. but none for the Seamen and Stokers (dog's not allowed) with a Chain.

Leading Seaman Carrel was put down below for refusing duty, he had been on duty from early in the morning, and had had no dinner and was just starting to get his Tea when the Boat was called away and he refused to take the Boat away until he got his meals.

The two above reports and the Stoker's kept working until 10 PM. and then having to pick up watch keeping, and having no supper caused a great discontent among the Ship's Company. Lower deck was cleared and every body piped aft, but one half of the Ship's Company remained forward on the upper deck refusing to go aft.

The Commander explained that it was impossible to give Leave And that we we could not get Hot water owing to the E.R.A. working on the Atmospheric Valve.

9.0 lights put on Water Boiled Cocoa served out and the commander went round's and was bombarded with Spuds. Oiled Ship 240 Tons.
Leading Seaman Carrel was released.
27th. Divisions, Church.
Weighed Anchor and got under way at 11.15 AM. for Signapore Distance 10 Knots up to noon, 2530 to Signapore (Average speed 11.3)
Signal from Thursday Island "Wishing you God Speed and Good Luck."
Ans. "Thank you very much."
Roll on Signapore while we have a dickey Run ashore to stretch our legs and have a Good Pint.
5.30 PM. Rag Time Concert.

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28th. Distance Run noon 27th. to noon 28th. 284 Miles. to Signapore 2246, Average speed 11.43 Knots. 8th day in Tropics (3 Men in my mess Sick with mumps)
General Quarters, Church, Divisions.
There is a great loss of fresh Water in the Ship which cannot be accounted for, the Ship is being searched from head to stern but only a few small leakages can be found, Everybody is quietly getting fed up.
29th. 5 AM. No.1 Boiler in C Boiler Room tubes split caused by neglect of C.P.S. not watching his feed Water, Boiler in very Bad condition.
Divisions, Church, General Quarters, and Fire Stations.
Still losing Water and we cannot account for it
Distance up to noon 265 Miles, 1981 to go. Average speed 10.9 Knots.
9th day in Tropic. (Roll on Signapore completely fed up)
The regulation of the Engine Room department is of the very Worst Class possible and it is impossible to get men to their stations as their names are on three or four different bits and it is impossible for a man to be in three or four different places at one time, it is time some of these old crocks were slung out of this Navy and give the young Blood a chance then ship's might brighten up a bit.
Sighted Oil Tank made Signal, All's Well.
30th. Passed ..?.. Island and sighted SS "Recorder" and Passed land on our Starboard Bow. Distance Steamed 281, Average speed 12.2 Knots, to Signapore 1700 miles.
Sighted land to Starboard. 1.30 PM. Land to Port.
Port L.P. Turbine started knocking, the cause (Querie)
Fire in Starboard Lower Coal Bunker C Boiler Room, 10th day in tropic.
Another inspection by the Doctor for mumps.

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31st. Sunday Divisions, Church Service, Pipe down.
Distance Steamed 299, knots, 1401, to go, Average speed 12.3 Knots, just passed small Island, and Sailing Ship
11th. day in Tropic making the last in the Old Year 1916.
May this be the last of the dark Year's and may the New Year be a Bright and Merry one
Brightened up by an Early Peace. Wishing you all Everything that One can Wish Himself.
Good Night 1916, All's Well. Struck 16 Bells, 8 for the Old Year, 8 for the New Year.

January 1917

1st. Church, Divisions, General Quarters.
11.30 AM. Served out 1 Bottle of Bear the Costs of a 1/-, left a very Bad Taste, (Wishing for more) No Slops drawn.
Passed the Islands of ?
H.M.S. "Cadmus" came under our Quarter and we sent the "Fontome's draft aboard, (Payed Money £5. 8s. 0d.) She sent some German Mail aboard that she had taken from a Dutch Mail Packet. 12th day in Tropic. Distance 280 Knots, 1121 miles to go, Average 11.5 Knots
2nd. 2 AM. The Oil Fuel System went wrong in A Boiler Room, lit up B 3 & 4 Boilers.
Division, Church, Physical Drill. 12th day in Tropic.
No Slops can be drawn as the Slop Room is Flooded with Water.
Distance Run 319 Miles 765 to go. Average speed 14.3 Knots.
3rd. Divisions, Church, Drill
Had a lot of trouble with the Oil Fuel System in C. Boiler Room.
Distance run 383 Miles, 381 to go Average speed 13.7 Knots.

Weather Dull Showery.
Another Spasam with Mumps Muster outside Sick Bay for Inspection by Doctor.

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3rd. 13th. day in Tropic's.

Wednesday Sent 20 AB Seamen down to trim Coal in the Bunker's, they get a Shilling a day extra, and they earn it.

4th. Divisions, Church, Drill

Distance run 383 Ave. Spd. 15.7 Knots.

Arrived Signapore 12.45 PM.

Anchored for about 20 Minutes and then Weighed Anchored and proceeded to the Oil Wharf and Oiled Ship 219 Tons, left for Anchorage to Coal Ship

Ship Company very disappointed at not being Granted Leave. 14th Day in Tropic's.

5th. Coaled Ship Native Labour

Gave leave from 10 AM. to 7.30 AM. 6th. to one Watch and Leave to ½ half the Other Watch.

6th. Division, Church, Clean Ship.

Leave to Blue and first part of White Watches from 10 AM. to 7 AM. 7th.

During our stay in Signapore the native's temperatry wired the Ship, and native Boys were employed in cleaning the Bilges were it was impossible for our Stoker's to get. 8th.

The Ship's Company and the Shropshire Regt. (Territorial) did not strike the Happy Medium so we had a dust up, and served out Bandages, and Black eye's.

9th. Divisions, Church, Drill in the forenoon,

in the afternoon we light up 7 Boilers and leave Signapore at 6.15 PM. for Penang. Distance Run 271 Miles, average Speed 16 Knots, 141 to go. 15th Day in Tropic.

10th. Arrive Penang 7.15 PM. and left the H.M.A.S. Physic's Draft, then Weighed Anchor about 9 PM. and got under Weigh for Columbo.

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16thDay in Tropic's. 10th Wednesday.

Distance Run 237, to go 1038, Average Speed 16.75 Knots.

11th. 17th day in Tropic's.

We are now travelling over the route the S.M.S. Emden made most of Her Raids from Penang to Madras.

12th. Divisions, Church, General Quarter's.

About 8.30 AM. passed "City of London" (Armed Merchantman) and about 9.15 AM. passed a Dutch steamer "SS. Sidora".

There is Great Discontent among the Boiler working Party owing to them having to work from 8 AM. to 12 M.N. making a total of 15 working Hour's.

The Stoker's are all in General getting disheartened owing to the Bad leadership and the Sarcastic principles of the Engineer Commander, and his lack of interest in the Department.

The Seamen are again employed in Bunker Trimming owing to so many Stoker's being on the Sick List and if things go on as they are going on at present all the Department will shortly be under the Doctor, although at present the Eng. Comdr. has given order that no Stoker has to be put on the Sick list as long as he can stand or walk.

4.15 PM. Enemy Quarter's and Sub Caliber Gun firing at a buoy target acting as a Submarine.

Distance 409 Knots, 642 to go, average Speed 16.6.

Shut off 1 Boiler in B "Stokehole" it having defective feed chuck, if we have many more going wrong we shall be at Mercy of Wind & Wave's and then good bye, here go's nothing.

18th day in Tropic's.

13th. Distance Run 380 Miles, to Columbo 260, Average Speed 16.0. 19th Day in Tropic's
Church, Divisions, General Quarter's & Fire Quarter's.

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14th January.

Arrived Colombo about 8 AM. and started coaling at once with Welsh Coal and Patten fuel, with native labour. The Chief Stoker's were tested in Eye Sight and all but 2 were found Defective and are being sent out of the Ship. this is the Work of our Senior Engineer Mr. Dennis who is one of the only five Whiteman that we have got in this Ship. (Coal taken in 430 Welsh, Patten fuel 300 Tons) And it is a pity that there were not a few more weeded out and sent back.

H.M.Sub. "Venus" & "Saffire" are lying in Harbour. 20th. Day in Tropic's 1£.

We are rolling nearer Home to Merry England where I expect that things will get livened up a bit, and a Stoker get a little more respects shown to Him. As at present he treated and Classed a thousand degree's lower than the most venomous reptile, and God knows that is low enough when he made it to crawl on its Stomack for it Baseness, So you may judge the condition's we are Serving under.

Reported H.M.S. Cornwallis Torpedoed.

Leave was Given to Red & 1 Part of Blue Watches from 1 to 6 PM.

15th. Drill, Prayers, Divisions.

Payed money £3. 5. 0.

H.M.S. Saffire left for Sea.

H.M.S. City of London came in to Coal and give Leave.

Leave from 4,30 PM. to 10 PM. for the White and 2 Part of Red.

Working on the Blower Engine, 8 Boilers open for Cleaning.

Awaiting Order's ship under 3 Hour's Notice .

Leading Stoker Russell left for Hospital

Painted Ship, Native labour

16th. Leave for Red and 2nd Part of Blue from 4.30 PM to 10 PM.

17th. Leave for White and 1st. Part of Blue " " "

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18th. Divisions, Prayers.

Left Colombo about 9,30 AM. Destination unknown.

PM. Steaming without lights, and Guns Crew's at their Guns And Submarine lookouts are placed, we are now steadily speeding towards the war Zone.

P.O. Luscam made Chief Stoker, and Leading Sto. Underwood made Stoker P.O.

21st Day in Tropic's.

Chief Stoker Elms, Williams and Lead'g. Stoker More were invalided from the Ship and sent back to Austrailia. Four Midshipmen & 1 Marine are taking passage in the Ship.

H.M.S. Venus left for Patrol at 9 AM..

Hot Supper 2 Eggs (Chinese Humming Birds) Same size Pijon.

I am gradually becoming a Grease spot with continous Sweating, the Temperature of the mess deck is about 100 deg. and the Hatchways are all covered over, and it is impossible to sleep on the upper deck owing to it being wet, so you tell what it is like Sleeping on the mess deck.

Had a good time at Colombo, got a very big Head this morning.

Chief Stoker Curran takes over regulating Duties. S.P.O. Lamb takes over Mess deck duties.

19th. Church, Divisions, General Quarters.

Distance 352 Knots, to go to Aden 1750 Miles, Average Speed 14.3.

Leading Sto. Canning was reduced to Stoker for insolence to Eng. Comd.

22nd Day in Tropic's.

20th. Church, Divisions.

Saturday's Routine Holy Stone Deck's with bibles and Sand.

Sling Clean Hammocks. 23rd. Day in Tropic's.

Distance run 363, to go 1397 Miles, Average Speed 14.87

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20th. The Whole or Red Watch was mustered on the Well deck and were detailed off for their permanent, Fire, Collision, Abandon Ship, Out Collision Mat's, General Quarters stations.

4.30 Evening Quarter's.

Candidates for the Band are driving us mad with their Row.

7,30 PM. Started .303 tube firing at Calcium light, and Maxim fire at Zeppelin (Practice) Result V.G.

Search light Practice for Submarine.

21st. Divisions, Church.

Hand's Muster by Ledger, and read out Character for the past year 1916. Character V.G, ability superior. 24th Day in Tropic's.

Distance Run 360, to go 1044. Average speed 15.3.

Mechanics, Superiior, Firing, Superior, Water tending, Superior, Aux Machinery, Superior.

8 PM. Close all Water Tight Doors.

22nd. We carried out Battle Practice and fired 12 rounds per Gun. the Shooting was Fairly Good. One Time fuse Shell was fired and carried away half the target.

Distance run to go Average speed.... Not reported.

4.15 PM. Evening Quarter's and Drill. 25th Day in Tropic's.

Reported Ammunition Works blown up in East London.
Dropped Calcium Life buoy and Called away Sea Boats Crew for Practice in Live Saving.
5 to 5.30 PM. Swung to test Compass and adjustments.
Reported that two German Armed Merchantmen are about in the South Atlantic around South America.
A Great Debate on the forecastle to Kill Time. Subject Can the War Last another Year, or not.

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6 PM. Gun'd Crew's muster at their Gun's for night Defense.
Steering Gear went bung 4.15 PM.
Distance run 345 Miles, to go 377. Average Speed 15.3 Knots.
23rd. Church, Divisions, Drill
Passed Transport 12.20 PM.
4.30 PM. Evening Quarters, Drill running round the Boat Deck.
Slop's 2 Black Silks & 1 Pr. of White Shoes.
Gun's Crews close up for night Defense.
Weather Very Fine, Sea Calm. 26th Day in Tropic's.
24th. Divisions, Church, Both Watches for Exercise.
Arrived Aden 11.30 AM. and the Coal lighters came alongside and we coaled with native labour.
During the afternoon we were watching the Shell's burst at La Houst in Arabia, the fighting was with the K.O.Y.L.I. & Shropshire & Indies Troops against the Arabs and Turks, according to the White People ashore this is the liveliest time that they have seen for some time. Shells were bursting about every 2 or 3 minutes, we can only see clouds of sand and smoke.
Coming into the Harbour a Shell was put across our bow for us to Stop as we had not received permission from the Commandant. We received permission and proceeded.
In the Harbour is a small Italian river Gun boat and H.M.S. Minara & Undine.
27th. day in Tropic's. Distance run 377 miles.
Coal taken in 600 Tons, Just told of for a Bunker as Bomb's have been found in the Coal that Ships have taken in at Port Said and they blame the Natives for placing them there. So we have to trim our own Bunker's as the Arab natives are not allowed in the bunkers.

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25th. Left Aden 10.15 AM. enroute for Suez.
Passed Rerim about 6 PM in the Disciples Group.
Gun's Crew's closed up Round their Gun's for night defense.
We are Steaming under 7 Boilers.
Great Queries as to our Destination. 28th Day in Tropics
Reported 600 Prisoners taken at Yesterday's fighting at La Houst Arabia.
We have passed about 8 ships since we left Aden, this is more than we passed conig from Sydney to Colombo.
26th. Divisions, Church, Drill, General Quarters.
Distance Run 372, to 1020. Average speed 15.3 29th. Day in Tropic's.
Gun's Crew closed up Round their Gun's for Night Defense. Maxim Gun Practice 5.30 PM.
8PM. Darken Ship, we are Steaming Without Lights.
27th. Church, Divisions, Saturdays Routine. Holy Stone, Scrub and Wash down Decks and Mess's.
11 AM. Captain's Rounds.
Tropic finished, Total £1. 9s. 28th.
Distance Run 351, to Go 301 Average speed 14.75.
Evening Quarters, Night Defense Stations. Guns Crew's Close up. Darken Ship
8.30 PM. Close Water tight doors. Commander's Rounds.
9.30 PM. Pipe down, Lights Out.
29th. Arrived of Port Suez at 2 AM. and dropped the Anchor. Weighed Anchor at 8 AM. and took up Station for going into the Canal. Anchored again 9 AM. 301 Miles.
9 AM. Division's, Church. General Drill, and Gun Station.

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2.10 PM. Entered the Canal and took up the Pilot.
Passed H.M.S. Humber (Monitor) H.M.S. Espigeal (Sloop).
Just as we entered the Canal a Japanese Trawler coming up on the Starboard ~~Quarter~~ Quarter tried to pass between us and a bouy and slewed into our Stern (No Damage)

Greeting from H.M.S. Humber "Good Luck", from Commander Hare to Commander of HMS Humber "Will see at the Army and Navy Club next. Good Bye",
four Armed Merchantmen 2 Italian 1 French & 1 English We are just passing through the Bitter Lakes 5.10 PM. General Quarters, Searchlights Crew close up round Searchlight for passage the the Canal. Passed SS "Ferngarth" of Newcastle in Bitter Lakes. Reported Austrailian Mail 11 Hours behind all anxious.

Anchored at Ishmailia at 9 PM. Weighed Anchor at 1.30

30th. Arrived at Oiling Station at 7 AM. and prepared to Oil. Light up Steam Pinnacle. (204 Tons). 9.30 Division & Prayers. Prepare to Coal ship (600 Tons)

On the West Bank of the Canal there is a camp of about 5000 Armenian Refugees, and they look in a very good condition and very Happy.

Roll on some Civilized Port so that we can get a decent Meal as we feel half Starved as the food we are getting is of a very unappitising nature, and very little of it at the best.

We have a Warrant Officer from one of the Armed Merchantmen on board under Close Arrest (Case so Secret).

Reported H.M.S. Glasgow had caught Commerce Raider off South America.

"Well done Glasgow"

Weather is gradually getting Colder as we get near England and we begin to feel it after Steaming in the Tropic for the greater part of the last 4 Years.

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30th. We are under Port to Port Orders and our next Port is not known until we are from 12 to 24 Hour's out of the Last Port, and then they are subject to Alteration's, this is done so that no one cannot give information as to the Ship's movements or Destination.

The Torpedo Staff is now very busy getting the Torpedoes ready and in good working order also the Torpedoes Submerge's Tubes (Motto "Ready Aye Ready") "When they are not asleep". It is proposed to start a Ship's Magazine (Editor Chief Cook) and all are Heartily Welcome to join the Church Choir (I don't think). More Agony, Candidates for the Band at Practice trying to blow their front Teeth out ("Robbing the Dentist out of a job")

We are having a good overall over the Fans and pumps and everything in General heading for our run through the Mediterranean Sea, where it is Rumoured that they have 4 Torpedoes marked Brisbane to give us a Free Passage into the Next World (no more Navy over there) Makee de Fin.

31st. Divisions, Church, Drill.

Primed and Topped all Boilers and Cleaned them out all ready to Ship out at a moment's notice.

During the Dinner Hour we watched the mine Sweep at blowing up a mine which they had found out side the Harbour. During the Afternoon about 20 bodies were found, these were bodies belonging to two ships that were sunk about 2 weeks ago.

Ships in Harbour: H.M.M. No. 10, H.M.S. Newcastle, 2 Patrol Boats, 4 Mine layers & Sweepers, 1 French Battle Ship.

Leave was given from 4.30 PM. to 10.30 PM.

" " " " " " " "

February 1.9.1.7.

1st. Church, Divisions, Drill

S.S."Ceramic" arrived. Payed Ship's Company.

Leave from 1.30 PM. to 10.30 PM.

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2nd. Divisions, Prayers, Drill.

10 AM. Clear lower Deck, Hoist Steam Boat.

6 AM. Light up all round ready to leave.

Left Port Said at 10.30 AM. at a Speed of 22. Knots. Their is a heavy Swell running and we are Battened down forward as she is shipping Heavy Seas over the Bridge and our mess decks are awash, which makes things very uncomfortable for the Ship's Company.

The Three foremost Guns are manned, and Submarine Lookout placed, and we are on a 7 minuet zig zag course. Destination Probably Malta (not certain)

3rd. Divisions, Prayers, Drill.

Weather is getting finer. Average Speed 22½ Knots.

Good lookout is being kept for Submarines.

4th. Divisions, Church, Pipe Down.

Arrived Malta 4 PM. and went alongside the wharf.

5 PM. Piped Canteen Leave until 9 PM.

5th. Admiralty Expert's came onboard and had a good look round, we are now awaiting orders.

French transport on fire in the outer Harbour, she had been fired and she was then sent outside and a Submarine fired a Torpedo into her and she Sank.

Leave from 4.30 PM. until 7 AM.

6th. French flagship went in to dry dock.

The Maltese are working on the electric wiring it will probably 6 weeks or more for wiring alone, it is not settled about the Boiler. Funeral Party told of for burying the Frenchman Killed on Transport. The Wallabies have arrived at Malta and the Prices have gone up 20%.

The F11 Submarine, the Heroes of the Dardnells is laying just ahead of us and the Crew can tell some stirring Stories.

2 PM. A German Spy was caught in the dress of a French Soldier abreast of this Ship trying to get onboard, when the Police ask him what he was doing he could not give a satisfactory answer.

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He was Tried this morning, on being searched papers were found in reference to the French Transport that was set on fire.

He was found guilty and Sentenced to Death.

He was shot this morning.

Rumoured that a ship has been torpedoed about 100 miles from Here and is being towed in to Malta, and will probably arrive Here on Thursday.

7th. Divisions, Prayer's Drill.

Funeral Party of 50 men went ashore to Bury the victims of the French Transport, 8 in all they were dragged on Gun carriages by men from the French Flagship.

H.M.S. Gloucester Arrived from Brindisi for refit, went into Dry dock.

8th. Divisions, Prayer's.

Hands told of for working Parties.

Leave from 1.30 for All Blue and 1st Part of White and Red Watches 7 AM. in the morning

SPO Lawrence deprived of one G.C. Badge for bringing a flask of Whiskey onboard.

We are Guard and a fire party was told of for fire in the Dock Yard at the Rope wharf, they got half way there and was sent back by Commander of Dockyard, fire under Control.

9th. Divisions, Prayer, Drill.

Shifted Ship to allow Hospital Ship to disembark wounded Soldiers from Salonika (Dover Castle)

Leave from 4.30 PM to 7 AM.

10th. Divisions. Saturday's Routine.

11th. Divisions. Land Church Parties.

Leave from 1.30 until 7 AM.

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Visited H.M.M. Sir Thomas Picton and looked at the damage done by the 8.2 Gun Fire, she has had a good knocking about, but at the same time she has given more than she received and the Admiral gave her great praise for her splendid work, she had a good few wounded but nobody killed. She is now refitting and is expected to go back around the Adriatic to give a little bit more to the Turk's

12th. Divisions, Church.

Refitting.

13th. Divisions, Church.

Refitting.

14th. Divisions, Church.

H.M.H.S. Wandillies arrived with wounded from Salonika.

Started to dismount our Gun's to have them in good Condition

15th. Divisions, Church.

50 Men were landed for a route march and drill. Payed money £3. 5. 0.

16th. Divisions, Prayers. Refitting.

17th. Do. Do.

P.M. SS. "Trowbridge" a ship that had been Torpedoed about 95 Miles out arrived and the Hole in her side was about 25 Square feet, she was a turret built ship and saved her a great deal and also saved her from sinking.

Visited Submarine E.2. this is the first Submarine that I have seen the internal parts of and she quite suprised me as they are one mass of machinery and very little spare space.

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18th. Divisions, Church.

Again visited the SS. "Trowbridge". She had lost about 400 Tons of Coal.

About 2 PM. the Destroyer's arrived with the people rescued from SS. "Athos" about 15 Miles outside 400 were lost and about 1000 were saved, they were landed in all sorts of conditions, some were almost naked, some were crying and others were very Happy and laughing.

The natives of Malta are holding a carnival and in one street all is merry with no thought of war, while in the next street is long lines of Ambulances full of Wounded and nerve shattered survivors of the Athos.

There was also a French Transport and a Tramp torpedoed during the day. (The Submarines are very active.)

19th. Divisions, Prayers. Refitting.

Entitled to a G.C. Badge.

Another Ship reported torpedoed outside this being the 4th. in two days.

20th.]

21st.]

22nd.] Refitting. Granted G.C. Badge.

23rd.]

24th.]

25th. Divisions, Prayers.

Stoker Eastabroke fell from a window in Valleta and killed himself about 3.30 AM.

26th. Divisions, Church.

27th. The Funeral Party comprising of nearly all the ship's Company landed at 8.30 AM. and he was buried at the R.C. Burial Ground, wreaths were presented by the Capt., Officer's, W.O., Seamen, and Engineer's Department.

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There is also a subscription off the Ship's Company to assist his wife and 4 Children.

28th. Divisions, Prayers.

Payed 1.30 £3. 5. 0.

Refitting.

1st. [March] Divisions, Prayer's

Survivors of Transport torpedoed out side, arrived in Hospital Ship.

Captain, First officer, and 1 hand killed, Submarine Captured.

2nd. Divisions, Prayers

Funeral Party landed to Bury Officers of Transport.

3rd. Division, Prayers

Refitting

4th. Division, Prayers

Refitting

5th. Division, Prayers

Refitting

6th. Division, Prayers

Arrival of Hospital Ship.

Refitting.

7th. Division, Prayers

Hospital ship arrived

Refitting

8th. Division, Prayers

Refitting.

9th. Divisions. Prayers

Hospital ship arrived.

10th. Divisions, Prayers

Refitting

Hospital ship arrived.

11th. Refitting. (Bagdad taken)

12th. Refitting.

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13th. Divisions, Prayers

Refitting.

SS "Dover Castle" Hospital Ship arrived with wounded.

14th. Divisions, Prayers

Payed Ship's Company £3. 5s. 0d.

Refitting.

15th. Prayers, Divisions.

Refitting

16th. Divisions, Prayers

Refitting

Reported that 2 Submarines were sunk outside.

17th. Saturdays Routine.

Refitting

St. Patrick's Day, make and mend.

18th. Divisions, Prayers

Refitting.

19th. 20th. 21st. Refitting. ("Chesterfield" reported sunk by Submarine)

Ship's Company getting fed up with Malta. Ship assumes the nom de Plume "Promise" H.M.S. four Ratings arrive back from Hospital, Chief Stoker Currie, Chief ERA. Williams, S.P.O. Allan to be discharged to England or Austrailia at their own Choice (also Taylor AB]

22nd. Divisions, Prayers

Hospital ship arrived. Make and mend.

23rd. Divisions, Prayers.

Hospital ship arrived with Wounded.

24th. Saturday's Routine.

Hospital Ship arrived.

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Ship placed under quarentine owing to outbreak of Measles 5 Cases in Hospital.

The Kits and Hammocks of 15, 24, 30, and 33 messes sent to Hospital for fumication returned 7.30 PM.

25th. Divisions, Church.

Lit up No.1 Boiler in A Boiler room for the purpose of testing Steam Pipes and Turbines.

1.30 PM. White watch was sent on shore for reccreation until 4.0 PM. The Ship's Company has to have as much fresh air as possible.

Two more Cases reported

26th. Stoker G. Ross returned from Hospital this was one first Measels case.

2 3 Chief Stokers were sent to the Ship from the HMAS Melbourne in Lieu of those discharged.

27th. Divisions, Prayer's

Landed for football & reccreation, Medical Inspection.

Refitting.

Ship under orders to go in Dry Dock.

Ship's Company under orders to go into Quarentine Camp for 21 day's.

28th. Divisions, Prayers

Ship sent in Dry Dock.

Ship's Company left Ship at 2 PM. for St. David's Camp for Isolation, we are living in Tents four in each.

29th. Divisions, Prayers.

Formed Squads and told of for Drill.

After noon, Make and mend, Sports.

30th. Divisions, Prayers

Route March.

Make and mend. Sports.

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31st. Divisions, Prayers

Drill, Sports, Maxim Tube firing. Make and mend.

April 1917

1st. Sunday. Church, Divisions, Holy Communion.

Pipe Down.

Swimming & Walking Parties give their names in to C.O.2. No more Cases reported.

The food has not been so good up here whilst we were under the Military, but now our own have taken over the messing things are a bit better.

If we stay up long we shall be in good condition and it will give the Ship's Company a much needed rest that they require, so this will make it much better for everyone.

A Submarine was caught yesterday just outside the Harbour. She was spotted by a Seaplane, and then surrounded by Trawlers with large nets, She then rose to the surface and showed the white flag. (Surrendered).

The weather is very fine and Calm.

2nd. Divisions, Prayer's

Route March.

2.30 PM. Payed Money £5. 1s. 0d. Piped Down.

During the few days that I have been in this camp I feel very much better in Health and Spirits and I think that everybody feels the same by their remarks.

3rd. Divisions, Prayer's.

Company & Rifle Drill.

12 noon Pipe Down.

One fresh case of Measles.

Weather Fine.

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4th. Divisions, Prayer's.

Route March.

12.30 PM. Pipe Down.

5th. Drill, Prayers

12 noon Pipe down.

6th. Divisions, Church. Good Friday.

10.30 AM. Pipe Down.

7th. Divisions, Prayer's

Battalion Drill

12 noon Pipe down. (8PM. pictures in the AMC Tent)

8th. Divisions. Church.

10 AM. Pipe Down.

Owing to the Soldiers in Camp selling their gear cheap, Our Boy's having buying some and some of the Soldier's not being satisfied with selling their Own, have been stealing their Comrades, so there has been trouble over it.

Our Commander has seen the C.O. Troops over it, and the C.O. Troops gave the order that if any man returns any gear he has bought to the Commander their money will be returned as it is Government property.

Well what can you expect from the Soldier's when some of them are only getting 6d. and 8d. per day and some only drawing 2 Shillings a week, and the Commodities at such terrible prices (Beer 7d. a pint with a big Cap Bond] and food not very plentiful.

Some of these men have fought in France, Belgium, and Salonika and Galipoli

One man I have been talking to is Pte. Brash of the A & S Highlanders who has had a remarkable Career in this Great War, he has been 3 Times a prisoner in Germany

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and each time he has escaped, the last time he was interned he was sentenced to Death, but got 7 weeks reprieve during which time he again escaped and assisted to (2) more to escape in to Belgium where he was assisted himself to England. During the South African war Pte. Brash one night on Guard called his relief who was very slack in turning out, and he was sit down waiting, when the visiting Officer came round though(t) that Pte. Brash was asleep, so he tried to take his rifle away and got a terrible surprise and a damned good hiding in the bargain, Brash taking him for a Boer in the dark. Brash was reported and tried by Drumhead Court Martial and sentenced to 10 Year Imprisonment, but owing to his Commanding Officer's influence he only did 3 months and Princess Louise got him his Medals 11 months after. He has been wounded in 3 different engagements and he is now waiting to go to the front again, Well Good Luck go with Him and may he have a Speedy and Safe return to those

who await him at Home in Scotland for he has well earned the Highest honour the Country can give Him, Let's hope he gets it.

No. 8297 Pte. C Brash
2nd Arg. & Suth. High'rs.
Salonica forces
Salonica.

at Present at Malta waiting to go Back to Shake hands with the Barglars. C. Brash.

There was a fire in the Paint Locker aboard the ship.
Hospital Ship "France" arrived. She is the 2nd biggest ship employed in this Service,
23, 000 Tons.

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Life on a Destroyer
White with the salt spray forward
Black with the smoke Stacks aft
Reddened with fire and water
Lord! What a hellish craft:
Everytthing lashed and battened
Everything hanging on
Every vessel that sights her
Thank's God when she's gone
A Coud of smoke in the distance
A mass of white spume
Madly she dashes onward
Into the deadly gloom
"Look on the Starboard bow Sir"
"Where? 'ard a port' Steady, so"Then, in a whisper,
"Give her every bit she'll go"

Shaking as if in Anger
Sobbing as if for breath
Wildly she rushes forward
With her awful load of death

Down in the Stifling Stokehold
Working in a perfect Hell
Wondering what has happened
God knows, and He won't tell

Doing their duty blindly
Sweating in every pore
Feeding the firey monster
Devouring more and more

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There are devils of Stoker's
Keeping a head of steam,
Shovelling, stoking madly,
Living an awful dream.

Look at the flames from the funnel
Scorching her hissing wake
While she seems to sing a war song
Death, ah! but for glory's sake

Hark at the frightened bugles.
See how the Searchlights fly
Searching the wide horizon
Ready? all right, stand bye!

~~<strike>~~ A crash~~</strike>~~ Fire! a splash in the water
And a Whitehead travels its way
As they open the firing wildly
During the night into day.

A Crash, and everything over
The warship is sinking fast
Taking her souls aboard her
Down to their rest at last.

Then. with her boilers nigh bursting
Red with her victim's gore
The death ship passes onward
For she cannot wait no more

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Though little you may think it
Take this tip from me
Such is the life of a Sailor
on a destroyer at sea.

But our sailors are ready
The danger's to brave
To fight for our contry
The empire to save

So, when safely at home
ere you fall asleep
Say a prayer for the sailor
away on the mighty deep. A.R.

9th. Divisions, Prayer's
Route March in which we had a good joke at the expense of Mr. Ryan who kept loosing his way and had to be directed by the native boys. (Lecture on Old English Navy and its work in the Great wars of the Empire)

10th. Divisions, Prayers
The Ship's Company was march past and were inspected by the C.O. Camp who then gave a speech and wished us God Speed where ever we went and that he wished to see us again in some future date.

4 PM. Quarantine finished.

R.G.A. Band played to the Ship's Company and Officers 5 PM. to 6.30 PM.

They Rendered very Good music for which we thank them very much and wish them Good Luck and God Speed where ever they Go.

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11th. Struck Camp and Packed our bags returned all our bedding to the Stores.

Left Camp about 9 AM. marching through Sliema Floriana and Valletta and arrived about 11.30 AM.

Dinner 12.30. Pipe Down for the Day.

12th. Divisions Church

SS "Roserie" was torpedoed and brought in and went into dry dock

SS "Kaiser i Hind" arrived with Troops but left again very shortly escorted by Japnesse's Torpedo Boats.

Provisioned Ship.

13th. Divisions, Prayer's

Ammunitioned Ship and started to Paint ship

Finished Provisioning.

14th. Divisions, Prayer's

Painted ship and prepared for Coaling Ship

Carried on until 7 PM.

15th. Divisions, Church.

Ship Company went to Divisions at 12.145 PM. for the benefit of Lord Methuen who had a look round and Gave a speech to the Ship's Company and made a state ment that he had spent 3 years in Hun Land (Pity he did not stop there) and he counted them among the Best of his Friend's. Well the Australian has not much time for him at the best of times, but the men of this ship now would rather kick than Salute him (no forgetting PRO GERMAN S.Africa)

SS "Caronica" Transport ship was torpedoed about 60 miles from here she was carrying about 3000 troops. The Greater part of them was Saved, it was a terrible to see them arrive. Now reported the SS "City of Marsellies" has been torpedoed about 40 miles away from the above ship. Destroyers leave to render assistance, one submarine sunk.

Ship's first Magazine issued 6d.

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16th. Coaled ship we took about 600 Tons. The Coal is a very bad lot.

Oiled Ship 220 Tons.

We are nearing the end of our stay at Malta.

17th. Divisions Prayers.

Cleaning up the Ship in General and rigging all necessary gear.

The Dock yard labour's finish work on board to day.

Watered ship and found that our filling pipe joints leaked very bad (refit not complete)

More Survivors arrive.

12 Midnight light up all round ready for leaving. Destination unknown.

All men but for Shore duties and Hospital patients, have returned on board (received mail)

18th. Divisions, Prayers.

Ship left Malta at 11.15 AM. bound East. The bearing on the Turbines run Hot, what we are going to do we do not know, up to the present things in General are going very well, Evening Quarter's. Practiced Collision Stations and abandon Ship Stations, man and arm Ship, Submarine lookouts take station.

Weather Fair, Watch keeping Port Wing Engine room . Life Belts to be worn at all times.

Good Bye Malta and Good Luck.

19th. Divisions, Prayer's

General Quarter's, Collision Stations, Abandon Ship Stations, Man and Arm ship, submarine lookouts stationed.

Tubes in C III Boiler gave out, cause defective Tubes.

Nothing sighted during the day, Weather very Fine Speed average 23 Knots.

Oil Fuel pump in C, Boiler room defective.

Darken Ship, night Search lights crews close up to stations.

Destination very much a query (Station for abandon ship, Starboard Large float.)

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20th. Divisions, Prayer's

Drill, Physical.

1.30 PM. Arrived at Port Said. Distance 980 Miles average Speed 23 Knots.

Slight outbreak of Fire in the Gunner's Stores near forward magazine.

Died out fires in A & C Boilers rooms, rigged Search light forward.

Coaled Ship 400 Tons. Oiled Ship 125.

SS "Mooltan" passed carrying our mail for Austrailia.

We are now ready for going through the Suez Canal, but where to the Skipper only knows, and he wont tell.

How much longer are we to wait for the Purser to serve out Soap, or does he think that the Stoker's have gone in for Oil Baths, or Belville Boiler Grease treatment, well cheer up it will be a God send when we get it.

21st. Left Port Said at 1.45 PM. and passed through the Canal as far as Ismailia Arriving about 10 AM. and Anchored. Leave was given to White Watch from 2 PM. until 8.20 PM.

Visited the Anzac's Camp there are many thousand Anzac's here also the Devon Terrors.

Awaiting Orders.

22nd. Divisions, Church.

Leave for the Blue Watch from 1.30 PM. to 8.30 PM.

2 PM. Hands to Bathe, Sceening (seining) party fall in.

Ship open to Anzac's 2 PM. the privileges of which were taken in full.

Went Scening but only caught about 12 fish, but had a good swim.
Stoker G. Ross of my mess is lying in the Sick bay unconscious in a fever which I think is a relaps of the last sickness owing to coming out of Hospital to Quick.
Met an old Friend who went out to Austrailia in the Vaimarou SS & A. He is now Serving in the Devons and has just come from India and expects to leave here for the front in about a fortnight from now.

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23rd. Divisions 9 AM.

10 AM. Admiral Weymess came on board and Inspected the Ship's Company and had a look round the ship which was Satisfactory.

11 AM. All Hands aft the Admiral gave a speech, and told us that we were now under his command and that our duty would lay in the Far East, and he made the Statement that we were needed as much there as in the North Sea or Medditerranean to guard our Empire's Coast Line and Sea Routes.

Well never mind it seems that I am fated to remain on out post duty the whole of the war, well never mind we can't all be lucky ones, we may yet get a chance some day.

2 PM. Left Ismailia to go through the Canal to Port Suez.

4.15 Anchored in the Bitter lakes to allow colliers and Oil tank to pass.

Good Bye Submarine area for a while.

Men interested in criket fall in on the waist for the purpose of forming a committe.

It is reported that the Australian Light Horse got a cutting up at Garzo, about 5,000 getting knocked out but they are still pushing ahead. (Tropic started First day)

Where "oh where are our Band Instruments oh "where oh where" can they be, on show in the museum in Brisbane or have they formed part of another German victory.

5 PM. got under weigh again and clear for a while

9 PM. Left Port Suez for Aden.

24th. Divisions, Prayers.

Distance run 285 miles Distance to go 1074 Average speed 16 Knots.

2nd day in Tropic's.

We are now trying to steer with our engines, in case our Steering gear get shot away or in any way damaged.

Lime Juice was served out to the Ship's Company

12 Month to day we arrived at Fremantle from England.

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25th. Divisions, Prayer's

We are now passing through those Historical Water's that once parted to allow the Isrealites to pass through and swallowed up the Egyptian Hosts.

Again we saw Mt. Siniai where Moses broke the plate and all the World has been looking for it since.

3rd. Day in Tropic's.

Distance run 359 Miles to Aden 720 Average speed 156.

26th. Divisions Prayer's

Drill, General Quarters.

During the day Stoker Nolan was put in the report for using 2 bowls of water to Bath himself. "Oh ye of the Tribe of Bilge Divers and Bunker Rats how dare ye use more that one Hand Bowl of water for ye Abultion knowing that He of the fine Raiment and Gold Braid is only allowed one Bath of 50 Hand Bowls of Water. Know ye not that He of Fine Raiment must have his Abultion, when ye cannot have Tea Water.

4th day in Tropic's. Distance run 307 Average speed 14.9

27th. Divisions, Prayer's

General Quarter's & Fire Stations.

5th Day in Tropic's. Distance run 305 - to Go 100, Average speed 16.9

A description of the German raider we are looking for has been put on the Notice board, She is a tramp, one funnel 2 Masts with Wireless rigged and 4 6" Guns and 4 Torpedo Tubes.

Oh! ye of the Brisbane how dare ye join under the articles of ..?.. et mon droit.

Well roll on Fredom and Sweet Peace when the conditions under which we work under may be a

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little better organised, and we will not be compeld to work in a closed in Enginroom at a temperature of 136 and the fans only running at quarter speed for fear they run hot, or the stoker may have to easier

time and be able to cut his meals when he come's of Watch instead of only being able to drink tea or hot water from the tanks when there is some there (Some times you Are lucky)
Arrived Aden 6.45 PM. died out all C Group and two Boiler's in A Boiler Room.
Hospital Ship Marama arrived about the same time, H.M.S. Fox is also here.
We are going to start Coaling at 5 AM. in the morning
Eggs may be a luxourie in Some places but onboard here they a dammed nuscience for in this last 2 weeks we have had them in every boxed up state possible so much so that we are waiting to see if feather's spring out of our Bodies, and to start chackling
28th. Started to coal Ship at 5 AM. with native labour doing the Seaman's part on deck but the filthy stokers had to trim their own bunker's in a temperature of 140 and were slogging at it until 10 PM. this was through the Eng. Comd., and his excuse was that there was a Plague on Shore, well that might be so but what about the natives on deck.
6th Day in Tropic's
Distance Run ..
Stoker Ross is in a very low condition.
29th. Division 10.15 Prayers
Started standing watchs in Stoke Holes and Eng. Room
Stoker Ross not expected to live (10.45 AM. Ross died)
7th day in Tropics
Distance Run 282

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Ross died at 10.45 AM.

It is a Pity that He was allowed to leave Hospital on the 26.4.17 as he was not in a condition to go to Duty, as he has been sick ever since, He reported Sick before arriving at Ismailia and why they did (not) land him ashore or send him to Cairo or Alexandria I don't know but this is very bad management running a man stricken with Fever & Plurise across the Red Sea, one of the Hottess Seas in the world, This is the risk we all run and the lack of intrest taken in the men.

Run for the day 283, to go 1854

* 5 PM. The Ship's Company was brought on the Quarter deck by the toll of the Church Bell for Burial Service.

The Body of George Ross, Stoker 1st. Class, was laid on a grating in the Starboard Gainway and covered with a Union Jack, Myself and Stoker's Winterfield, Glover, Ridgeway, were the Bearer's and had the painful duty of committing our Mess mate's body to the Deep. The Firing party lined the Starboard side of the Quarter Deck the Bugler standing Aft.

The Captain and Chaplin, and all Officer's were present. The Chaplain commenced the Service at 5.5.PM. going through the Burial Service up to the first Hymn. The Ship's Company sang "Abide with Me". As we were singing the Hymn the Ship seemed to swing round so that the extreme end of the Sun's ray seemed to be centred dead in line with the Body. And as the Chaplain committed his Body to the Deep we raised the Head of the Grating and as the body slid of the Grating and struck the water it also struck the extreme end of the Sun Ray, which was already fast sinking in the West. The Chaplain then carried on and finished the Prayer, Committing our dear Friend to the care of God.

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The Firing under the Command of Chief Gunners Mate Beaty then fired three volleys and A.B. Curtis the Bugler sounded the Last Post, the Firing party then Presented Arms paying their last respects to their dead Comrade George Ross.

Mors Omnibus Communis Death is common to all.

Rest in Peace

And God be with you till we meet again.

30th. Divisions, Prayer's.

Carried out Saturday Routine.

8th Day in Tropics

Payed Money £3. 5s. 0d. and Served out Soap and Tobacco.

Distance run 350, to go 1504 Average speed 15.2

Twelve months to-day we arrived in William's town Depot.

May 1st. 1917

Divisions, Prayer's.

Distance run 363, to Go 1141. Speed 15.4

9th Day in Tropic's

2nd. Divisions, Prayer's

10th Day in Tropic's

Distance Run 360. to go 781. Speed 15.25.

Weather Fine

To day is the last of my 38 Year, here endeth the 38 Chapter of my life.

3rd. Divisions, Prayer's.

Distance run to go Speed

11th Day in Tropic's

This is my 39th Birthday.

About 4.45 AM. Sighted a ship and gave chase, we made the signal for her to stop but she took no notice so we fired

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her bow's but she still went ahead so we fired a second shot and then she stopped, and we found that she was an Italian Turret Ship.

4th. Divisions, Prayer's

Drill, General Quarter's.

Distance run 401 miles, average Speed 15.2.

Arrived Colombo 2.5 PM

And started Coaling about 4PM. we took in 200 Tons and stopped for the night, native labour all round

12th. day in Tropic's.

All night leave was given to the Red watch until 7.30 AM.

There is plenty of shipping in the harbour, four Ships loaded with Chows for France.

One French Warship and one British and ~~austr~~ ourself

Coal taken in 765 Oil taken in 200

We received a mail from Austrailia, but only by chance.

5th. Started Coaling at 6 AM. 700 Tons finished at 5 PM.

4.30 PM. Took onboard a Seaplane, pilot and officer

Leave to the White and Blue Watches from 4.30 PM. to 11 PM.

Ship under Sailing Orders.

6th. Divisions, Prayer's

Slipped Bouy at 11.45 AM. We are going on escort Duty with 3 Transports, one with white troops and 2 with Chows.

5 PM. Ship sighted on the Starboard Bow, altered course to over haul her (All correct)

5.30 Put on all Sprayers in Boilers, Steamed round Convoy

13th Day in Tropic's

Two Stokers broke their leave and was brought onboard just before we left (10 day Pay, 10 day Leave and 2nd Class for Leave)

The Beer sold in Colombo last night must have been fighty Beer, for nearly all hands had a Scrap on shore.

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7th. Divisions, Prayer's

Weather very fine

Distance run 262, to go 250. Average speed 11.2

14th Day in Tropic's

We are getting the bombs ready for the Seaplane, as we are in the raidious of the German Raider.

4.15 PM. Evening Quarter's

8th. Divisions, Prayer's

10.15 AM. came in touch with H.M.S. Glouster and made towards her to hand over the convoy and mail to Her Convoy S.S.'s

We now start on patrol duties, and here starts the agony

8 second class stokers were made 1st. Class Stoker's

15th day in Tropic's

We are busy making a platform for the Seaplane in the waist deck.

We passed the Maldive Islands about 11 AM., our average now is about 6 knots, steaming in a circle in a given radius .

We have got about 6 ratings on board for passage to Colombo our headquarters and base. Distance run 267.

9th. Divisions, Prayer's

Our Seaplane went out on Scouting duty this morning for about one Hour but nothing was seen, returned all safe. We are not patrolling over the Hundred mile eara [sic area].

At 4.15 PM the Seaplane went out again and returned about 5.40 PM., we are now running a direct course for Keeling Island.

We passed some Small Islands during the day.

We are now steaming about 16 Knots to our next patrolling Station.

No Press news to night

16th Day in Tropic's

Stoker Bridger went through an operation for blood poisoned hand.

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To a Finish

Now blow the Trumpets; All that went before
Was but a skirmish in the war's outer skirts
We have not heard the cannon's loudest roar;
The previous spurts of fire were nothing more
Then trials, as of some young bird that flirts
A feather ere it soar to loftier flight
Now are the Armies mustered knee to knee
And Heaven and Hell and all Eternity
Shall see a fight.

Stand firm, Stout Teuton your's must be the Shock's
You asked for battle and the thing is here!
Be steadfast as the grey of Granite Rock
If this tremendous doom you hope to mock
For now, at last has come the trial year.
The wide earth shakes in wonder-dazzled night;
And Potsdam, Frankfort and the Northern main
Through floods of death and bitter storm's of pain
Shall see a fight.

The Russian points flash in the frosty Sun,
A hundred Leagues of valiant, charging hate;
The Western Front flames like a Single Gun,
As large as France and loaded black with fate;
The gathered ranks of Britain's new made might.
The hour has struck! The omens are all fair.
Prince, duke and Kaiser, if they will and dare,
May see a fight.

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During the Short time that the Seaplane layed alongside & waiting to be hoisted onboard this forenoon, a good few Sharks gathered round one was shot by one of our officers whilst trying to find out what was inside an empty barrel then the other's shoved off.

10th. Divisions, Prayer's

The Seaplane went out Scouting about 7 AM. and returned about 8.15 AM. doing the 80 mile raiious.
Nothing Sighted.

17th. Day in Tropic's

Seaplane went out again about 4.15 PM. and returned 5.30 PM.

No Press news to night

24 Seamen are employed in the bunker's owing to shortage of Stoker's in this Ship.

11th. Divisions, Prayer's

Seaplane went Scouting 7 AM. returned 8.10 AM.

3 PM. Seaplane made at trial but would not rise so we took her on board and overhauled her she then went up at 4.5 PM. and returned about 5 PM. Position 0-83-13 East we are now shaping our course for Colombo.

18th Day in Tropic's.

8.15 PM. A Lecture was given by Flight Commander Chedson On Seaplanes and Aeroplanes their usefulness, and their advancement during the War, He also gave us an idea of the tricks used by the Airmen in their flights when under fire, and though He is a man of vast experience he had very little to say about himself until our Captain asked him to do so, he then told us how when entering Dover they fired at him, and then after he had landed had the cheek to ask him what sort of shot he thought they were.

He also stated that we were carrying 18 inch Torpedoes on our Seaplanes and that we expect to carry 3 twenty one inch before long.

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12th. Divisions, Prayer's
Saturday's Routine.

We are steaming at about 17 Knots towards Colombo

1.30 PM. Sighted a boat upside down, we went towards her, and lowered our Seaboat to investigate. We found that she was a boat belonging to the SS. "Persues" . A. Holt's Comp, believed to be one of the S.M.S. Emden's victims, we took the two copper air tanks out of her so that she will soon be broke up. (Sunk by a mine out side Colombo, 19 miles, supposed to have been dropped by Dutch Patrol.)

19th Day in Tropic's.

Distance 385, to go 432. Speed 17.5

.30 PM. Sighted Ship Starboard bow and gave chase at once. the ship then altered course and follow, about 7.20 we overhauled her and lowered a seaboat under command of Mr. Ryan who went on board her and examined her papers and found her to be the SS. "Austral" one of Billy Hughes boats employed trooping.

13th. Divisions, Church.

12 Noon 68 Miles to go, Speed 17.2

Arrived Colombo about 4 PM. Leave was given for the White watch from 6 PM. to 7 AM.

(Mr. Dennis left ship for Hospital)

Disembarked the Seaplane and crew with their stores.

20th Day in Tropic.

14th. 5 AM. Started to coal ship 925 Tons, Oiled ship 210

Received mail from Australia and England

Notice is given that the Ship Company will only be paid once a Month. (Sugar raid on the mess deck, one bag sugar burst and disappeared)

Finish Coaling 6 PM.

Leave for the Blue Watch until 7.30 AM.

Rumoured that we have been granted a 1/- a day rise

H.M.S. Newcastle L.N.O. Ship

Ldg. Str. Landsburg sent to Hospital

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15th. Divisions, Prayer's

Clean Ship after Coaling.

Leave from 1.30 PM. until 7.30 AM. for Red watch.

Waiting Orders

The boys are not so cheerful owing to not being payed.

No prize money paayed yet (is there any joy of getting it)

H.M.S. Newcastle (Four men were tried for Murder but were acquitted and then tried for theft and sentenced to 90 days, and 1 to 28 days for breaking Leave.)

16th. Divisions, Prayers

6 AM. An excort of 8 men and 1 P.O. Landed to excort the men to Military Prison on shore.

Prepare Ship for Sea.

Onboard the H,M,S, Newcastle there is another charge of broching Run (light up at 12 PM. six boilers)

She seems to be a very cheerful ship I don't think

17th. Division, Prayers

Got under weigh at 7.30 AM. the excort the Seaplane Ship SS. "Raven".

21st Day in Tropic

We took in 15 Leedy Boys who have just Paid of the H.M.S. Venus

Passed the SS. Kaiser i Hind who is bound from Australia to England

18th. General Quarters, Fire Quarters, Hand Steering Stations.
Distance Run 240, to go ... Average Speed 10
22nd Day in Tropics
19th. Saturday's Routine
Passed a Japanness Ship, all Correct
Average Speed about 10 Knots.
23rd Day in Tropic

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20th. Divisions, Church
Roll on my time for I am properly fed up with this Ship, for one order does not hold good for 24 hours at a time, We are sorry that we have lost Mr. Dennis as the Sub Lt. Mr. Britt who has only left College about 1 year is trying to make things very sad, and if things goes on as they are I think that there will be very much trouble before long.
When will this Slavery finish, and men be allowed to be Men.
24th Day in Tropic
Average Speed 10 Knots, how far, or where we are going God knows
21st. Division Prayer's
Drill (Passed H.M.S. Exmouth with 2 Transports.)
2 AM. chased a ship and found her to be a Japanness
12 AM. Overhauled one of the B.I. Boats in Balast
3.30 PM. Dropped the "Raven" and increased speed for Bombay. 25 Day in Tropic
Arrived Bombay about 7 PM., Speed about 18.5.
22nd. started to coal ship about 8 AM.
Landed dockyard Store parties at 9.30 AM. for Stores
4.30 PM. Leave for the Blue and 1st part of White Watch to 7 AM.
8 PM. finished Coaling 320 Tons, Native Labour
Slight ..?.. of Hen flew out of the Window.
I am afraid that after I leave this ship I shall be unable to look an hen in the face for the remainder of my life (Hot Supper Stale Eggs and there is fifteen thousands more to follow
Chinese Humming Birds)
H.M.S. Juno in Drydock
Received Mail (26 Day in Tropic)
23rd. Division Prayers
Saturday Routine
Store party for Engineer's stores.

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23rd. During the time we were drawing Stores we broke out of the Dockyard and got Drunk and then came back and had a swim and went out and had a few more drinks, the Patrol came ashore to look for us but they did not find us so went aboard again, so when we arrived in the dockyard they sent a Signal to the ship and the patrol came ashore again but we were then adrift in the lighter trying to get of to the Ship, we were then put under arrest and on arrival onboard I was put down below under the Sentry's charge for being drunk.
(27 Day in Tropic)
Store Party as follows
Stoker's Ruskin, Bridges, Pomroy, Cook, Walsh, <strike> Marshall</strike> Kieghan, and Clark, (Ldg. Stoker Edwards and Chief Stoker Corssel) not charged.
Released from Sentry's Charge at 8.30 PM.
5.PM. Put to sea for Colombo at 16 Knots.
We were charged with Breaking out of the Dockyard
Drunk and Disorderly in the Dockyard
Damaging a motor Gararge
And Insulting the Proprieter
24th. Division Prayers
Drill
11 AM. we were brought up before the Commander who read out our charges and remanded us for the Captain.
11.30 The Captain had us up one by one and asked us questions and then asked us if we had any thing to say but we had not so we were remanded for further evidence from Bombay.

28 Day in Tropic
25th. Division Prayers
General Quarters, Fire Stations
nothing to report
4.30 Evening Quarters
29th Day in Tropic

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26th. Division Prayers
On arrival in Colombo we were brought up before the Captain who again investigated the case, we were given 20 minutes to consider our evidence but we remained the same (so we were tried for the first 2 charges) Punished by Warrent but the Punishment to be suspended.
Arrived Colombo 11 AM. (coal ship 560 Tons)

29th Day in Tropic
27th. Saturday's routine until 10 AM.
10.15 AM. Division Church (Sunday)
11.10 Pipe down
Leave from 1.30 PM. until 7 .30 AM.

28th. Monday
Division Prayers
Provisioned Ship and Paint ship
11 AM. H.M.S. Diana left
H.M.S. Saffire arrived 6.30 PM.

29th. Division Prayers
Carried on Painting Ship
8.30 AM. Everybody aft and our warrents were read
Our Punishments as follow -
Ruskin, Bridges 1 G.C. Badge

2nd Class for Conduct
2nd " for Leave
and 90 days Detention in Kandy

the remainder 2nd for Conduct
2nd " Leave
and 90 days.

The Second Class for Conduct dip us 10d. per diem for 3 Months
and 2nd for Leave for Six Months.

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30th. Division Prayers

We took on board a Seaplane and Flight Commander and crew.

Payed money, but our money was suspended until we get the report from Bombay

The 90 Day is Suspended so if we are of Good behaviour for 3 months it will be a wash out

Owing to the Temperature of the Engine rooms being very high it is impossible for the men to stay down so long and it takes the whole of 4 Hour's to turn four turbines but Sub Lieutenant Britt is not sastisfied he says that he can turn them in an hour with 4 men.

And he told the P.O. Lawrence that he would have to drive the men harder, So the men went and saw Mr. Britt denighd that he said it, but if he had not said it he would have run the P.O. on the Quarter deck for stating a Lie.

31st. Divisions Prayer's

Drill

5.30 Left Colombo for Patrol

Weather very heavy High seas.

30th Day in Tropic

June 1917

1st. Drill Divisions Prayer's

General Quarters Fire Stations.

Monsoon Blowing Heavy Seas

31st. Day in Tropic

2nd. Saturdays Routine

1 PM. Pipe down, make and mend clothes
32nd Day in Tropic
Still very Heavy Weather and Raining.

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Sunday 3rd. June 1917

Division Church

11.30 Pipe down

Patroling the Bay of Bengal

Seamen employed trimming down bunkers as we are very short handed in the Stoker's Branch, and the remainder are about done up or sick and feverish, for the constant racing and tearing about the Tropic is beginning to tell on the men, the greater part of us having spend 3 Year's racing about all over the Tropical parts of the world and I can assure you that it is no Joke, for I wish to God it was all finished so that I could have a free life, peace and a little pleasure free from the restriction of the Navy and all concerned.

They are cutting down our food rations again, very soon we shall be living on fresh Air only.

33rd. Day in Tropic.

The Captain went round all the Engine Room's and found he Temperatures were very High.

In the P.E.R. directly under the fan which was going full speed the Temperature was 112 and the highest point 132 deg.

4th. Division Prayers

Seamen to Gun Drill

Ship standing bye to go into harbour, recalled from Patrol

Weather moderate with Rain Squalls

34th. Day in Tropics.

Arrived in Harbour 11 AM.

Started coaling 2.30 PM., finished 11.20 PM. 400 Tons.

Leave for the Watch Starboard from 1.30 until 7 AM.

5th. Division Prayers

Clean Ship

Saw the Captain at 11.30 AM. and was fined £1.12.6 And 1 Rupee Patrol expenses (Bombay)

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Japanese Ship arrived with Australian Transports

We are acting as Parent Ship for the Trawlers

We had 2 men charged with breaking Leave. One got 18 days Pay stope and the other 28 days detention in Kandy.

4 Ratings returned from Hospital

Discharged Seaplane and crews with stores.

11.30 AM. Answered Captains Defaulter's. The report having arrived from Bombay, the Verdict was that each of the Store party had to pay £1.2.6.

Coaled Ship 400 Tons

The Total Coal consumed during May 2072 Tons, Oil consumed 253.5 Tons.

6th. Division Church

Owing to having too much Tin Fish in our daily Menu the Stokers' refused to turn to work.

The Engineer Commander came and asked them to work, But they still refused

The case was then taken before the upper deck commander who investigated the case and asked the men to turn to work and he would take the case before the Captain and get us satisfaction.

The men then turned to work and the Leading hand of Messes was then sent for by the Commander who then went thoroughly into the matter before taking it before the Captain.

11.45 AM. All leading Hands of Messes were sent for by the captain who asked questions regarding the food and he then admitted that there was room for a great deal of improvement and variety. He then asked to form a food Committee to organise the Menu's.

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7th. Division Prayer's

6 AM. Ships Company went for a route march returning at 9 AM.

Stoker Clarke is placed under Sentry's Charge for attempting to strike Ships Corporal Elliot

8th. Division Prayer's

Things assume their own normal condition

Japanese Cruise left
9th. Saturday's Routine
3.30 PM. 150 Men and Boys leave the Ship for a Tea fight, Given by the Ladies of Colombo
Stoker Clarke receives 90 days Hard labour Civil Prison
9 PM. Tea fight Party returns on board, and they state that it was very good, also the Pictures
10th. Division Church
11.30 Pipe down
4.30 Evening Quarters
Reported that SS. "Commonwealth" torpedoed with draft for this ship onboard
Steering Gear erratic and under repair's
11th. Division Prayer's
Surveyed Cable and Anchors
Leave for the Port Watch
Weather very fine
12th. Coal Ship and prepared to took on 300 Bags of coal on the upper deck, it is believed that we are leaving this station, and I hope that it is correct
Food Committee, the Commander has approved of one man of the Committee to go ashore with the Chief Steward when buying Provisions, the C.S. did not like this arrangement but like every body else he had to do as he was told.
A Feather for Commander Hare R.N.

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13th. Coaling Ship and Oiling ship. 300 Tons Coal 210 Tons of Oil
Leave from 4.30 until 11 PM.
Light up C Boiler Room 4 AM.
14th. Division Prayer's
Up all Boats and prepare for Sea
11 AM. Cast off and proceed from the Harbour of Colombo to leave the Station for a Spell
It is Believed that we are Bound for Austrailia as we have about 30 Ratings taking passage who are Invalides
35 Day in Tropics
Commander Hare is left at Home in Colombo, Suddenly taken Sick
The food is much Better the last Week.
Weather Wet, Speed 15 Knots, 6 Boiler's
Magazine No. 2 Issued, and it is very good
15th. Division's Prayer
Weather Fine
General Quarters Firing .303 Practice
4.30 Evening Quarter's, Fire Stations
36 Day in Tropic
Distance Run 345, to go 2820, Average Speed 14.2 (Fremantle)
Nothing to report
16th. Saturday's Routine
Up All Bags on the Forecastle and a Sea comes over and drowns them
37 Day in Tropic
Distance Run 345, Average Speed 14.4
17th. Division Church
Pipe down 10.30 AM. Weather Fine.

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Sunday 17th.
Distance Run 359,
Average Speed 15 Knots
38 Day in Tropic.
18th. Division Prayer's
Distance Run 345, to go 1430, Average Speed 14.5
40th Day in Tropic £2
Weather Very Fine All Well
Medical Inspection
Pay Day £2. 14. 0.

20th. Division Prayer
General Drill, Fire Stations, Collision Stations.
41 Days in Tropic
Distance Run 335
21st. Division Prayers
Distance Run 334, Average Speed 14. To Go 760 Miles
Started Winter Clothing
22nd. Division Prayer's
Distance run 376, to go 373, average Speed 15
Weather very Fresh
23rd. Division Prayers
Prepare for going to Harbour
Arrived Fremantle at 12 Noon
There is a Japanese Cruiser in the Harbour
Started Coaling 3.30 PM. and stoped for the night at 11 PM.
24th. Started Coaling at 8 AM. and finished at 3.20 PM.
Coal taken in 1088 Tons
Leave was given at 5 PM.
Hospital Ship arrived at 4 PM.

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24th. A.B. Harwood was put under Sentries Charge on charge Theft of about 7£ from AB Green and AB Truscott. He pleads Guilty.
This is a very sad affair for his Friends as they were waiting on the Jetty from 9 AM waiting for him to come ashore, he is a native of Fremantle
The unlucky 7 of Bombay Fame are chancing there arm and putting in for a turn of General Leave what will be their Luck
Stoker Ridgeway is very ill he has been removed from the Sick bay and put in Mr. Davis's Cabin Mr. Davis taking the Captain Sea Cabin for the time being
The Captain and Engineer Commander went ashore in Civilian clothes, which is direct against war regulations
Leave not Granted.
26 June 1917 Warned to see Captain at 11 AM.
The Captain then sentenced us to carry out our 90 day at Fremantle Detention Barracks
While we were there Pte. Potter tried to escape but was caught.
He was then admitted to Hospital from there he made good his escape
We had a fairly good time while we were in our new Quarters.
We were released on the 20 of Sept. at 3.30 PM. arrived on board the Ship at about 5 PM.
The Ship then left the Warph and lay out side for the night at about 10 AM. 21 she hove anchor and left Fremantle for Sharks Bay and stayed there for 7 days and then left for Beagle Bay and stayed there for about 6 days and then left for Thursday Island Oct. 6th. 1917

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Thursday 11th Oct. Arrived Thursday Island and Oiled Ship and left the following day for the Tropic destination unknown
We anchored for the night about 7 PM 12th.
and got under weigh about 7 AM. next morning
13th. 4.45 AM. Got under weigh heading for Rossel Island heavy Swells and High winds and as hot as Hell between decks
14th. At Sea.
Lit up 4 Boilers in A Boiler, things a bit easier
15th. At Sea Louisade Archipelago
No payment but you are allowed to sub
16th. Arrived off Rossel Island and had a very narrow squeak of running on a reef at about 11 AM.
Anchored of the reef and prepared for coaling
17th. Coaled Ship from SS. "Wear" 725 Tons, Started at 5 AM. and finished at 4.30 PM.
18th. Left Rossel Island at 9.15 AM. for Solomon Islands, 8 Boilers 15 Knots.
7 PM. reported light on the Port Bow, we gave chase and found out that it was the Evening Star
19th. At Sea. 2.30 PM passing one of the Solomon Group
Served out Quinine

20th. Arrived at Tulagia Harbour.
Leave for the Starboard watch from 1.30 PM. to 6 PM.
1 PM. More dope Quinine
Sunday 21st Oct. Church
Band played at the Governor's House in the afternoon.
Starboard Watch drank all the Beer in the pub.
22nd. Tulagi Island. More dope.

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24th Oct. 1917 Tulagi Island Getting ready for Sea
Left about 3.30 PM for Howe Group
Great Buzz land Party, Cannibal ..?..
25th. arrived at Valuvulu Island at 3.25 PM. Dropped Anchor, Party went ashore
26th. Left about 12.30 PM. Arrived at Howe Island
Leave for Starboard Watch.
had a visit from the King and Princess of the Islands, the Princess was very fetching and chick, But the King Oh, the ..?.. Mary.
27th. Oct. Left Howe about 11 AM.
Sunday 28th. Arrived back at Tulagi Island and prepare for Coaling from the SS. "Kanna" averaged 111 Tons per Hour / 28th Oct. Started 5.30 AM finish 5.15 PM. 29th.
30th. Tulagi Island
Swim as usual. Nothing doing.
31st. The first anniversary of the Ship's Commissioning, we had a concert on the Quarter deck Thursday November the 1st. 1917. (We have burnt 15,000 Tons of Coal in the first 12 months not counting Oil)
Painting Ship. Leave for the Star Watch
A letter of thanks from the Commission
2nd. Tulagi. Painting Ship
Sweet Spuds Salt Pork Old Navy

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3rd. Nov. 1917 Tulagi Island
Saturday's Routine.
Leave for the Watch. More dope
Sunday 4th. Nov. Church
Received fresh meat from another island
Leave for the watch.
5th. Tulagi
A great change, receive fresh meat for dinner
6th. Tulagi Island
received about 25 Bags of Mail and a draft of Boys and Wireless operators & Mr. MacFarlane, late Torpedo Gunner from the Sydney, now Lieut., From the H.M.A.S, Cerberus
7th. Usual routine.
8th. Tulagi Island
More agonay and usual Routine
9th. Tulagi as Usual
Anniversary of the Cocos Island fight
10th. Went ashore and had a good drunk to celebrate the event, this is the first one for 6 months.
11th. Church Divisions
had a good Bottle of Beer of the Ice and it was like Champagne to me
Roll On Sydney
12th. Divisions Church
We are rigging out Small motor Boats with Wireless for searching the Islands.

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13th. Tuesday Nov. 1917
Lit up 4 Boilers in B Boiler Room at 6.30 AM.
We are expecting to go to the Island of Maleta for to kill cattle as we are run out of meat and also we are running out of nearly all our stores, eatables, Engineers Stores and oil and clothing stores,

We have not had a decent feed for about a month, and we are just about fed up seeing nothing else but niggers and cocoa nut Palms, and the only refreshment that you can get onshore is fire water in the name of Whiskey or Rum which sends you stone mad

Weighed Anchor and left about 11 AM. arrived at Maleta at 2.30 PM. and dropped anchor.

We then sent a party ashore to kill beasts.

14th. 6 AM. Party arrived back after killing and brought the fresh meat with them.

Ship weighed anchor 10 AM. and left for a cruise

Capt. gave a lecture on the Solomon Island at 8 PM.

4 Boilers in B Room, another days Tropic

I am light duty but still carrying on my usual work and watch keeping but I do not receive the shilling Tropic (more Navy) I was examined by Dr. Roberts at 10.30 AM. (Heart & Lung Troubles) 3rd Watch down in Stokehole to light more Boilers.

Sighted SS. "Wear" Collier and ordered her to proceed to Tulaga. We then altered course and proceeded to Tugala and prepared for coaling, we comenced coaling at 3 PM. 280 Tons, finished at about 7 PM. (awaiting further Orders)

Belay Boilers in A Stokehole

one more day in Tropic (another bob)

15th. Tulagia. Divisions Church

Clean Ship.

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16th. November Tulagia

Church Division

Gave an Advance of Money (did not draw any)

Awaiting Orders

17th. Saturday's Routine

Attending the Doctor, Light duty. (still waking in a temperature of 128 deg.)

18th. Sunday Tulagia

Division Church.

Weather very Wet

Great Buzz that we are leaving for Brisbane shortly.

See Doctor. awaiting Orders

The Governor of the Island came back Sta. Cruz

19th. Division Church

Lit up B Boiler room at 4 AM.

" " C " " " 6.45 AM.

Rumoured that there is trouble at Santa Cruz, Expecting to go there

Weather very Wet

The beat of my pulse this morning, stood still 100 deg. after a short walk

We very near had an accident in the engine room owing to the Engineer of the Watch putting Steam to work a vacuum and then telling the Stoker's on Watch to work the turning gear, if they had done so there would have been someone hurt (Ellis)

Getting under way about 3.20 PM.

Taking about 2000 Cocoa Nuts on board for the natives of Naruru, who are said to be starving.

20th. Divisions Church

Saw the Doctor at 9 AM. and was relieved of watch keeping and excused duty for the day.

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at 9.30 AM. altered course to the South again as if we are being recalled

The report is that we are tryng to intercept some suspicious Schooner that has left New Zealand.

But the general Buzz is that we are recalled to Sydney to dock, Let's hope it won't be long as we are about out of Stores. (H. Cluph made Leading Stoker, this is one of my work mates at Cocos Islands)

Respiration 99 = 112 Pulse = Dr. A.H.

Died out B Boiler room at 2 PM.

Enemy Quarter's = Close Water tight Doors & C doors

Still awaiting that all Welcome Day.

On 8 Boilers we are burning 8 tons of Coal an hour or 192 Tons per day rather an expensive trip to feed niggers "But" to be recalled half way is rather to "Bad" for the nigs.

21st. Division Church

Arrived at Santa Isabelle at 1.20 PM. and left at 4 PM. Sighted the "Southern Cross" and sent a Boat to her

Saw Doctor at 9 AM. who ordered me to work on the upper deck in the fresh air only respiration 100 = 116. Take things easy

22nd. Divisions Church

Sighted Smoke on Port Bow and gave chase, found it to be SS "Oomak" bound for Narru

We discharged a check book ? to her and allowed her to proceed

Still attending the doctor for enlarged Heart. Light duty on the upper deck

We are patrolling of San Cristoval Island

A.B. Cader got his fingers of the left Hand jammed in a Block whilst hoisting the first cutter, he was operated on by Surgeon Roberts and Dr. Morne at 12.10 PM in the Sick Bay.

Progressing favourably at 5 PM.

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The Submarine

A Shadow drifts through the seafloor Waves

Where the old armada Sleeps,

Breaking the hush of those ancient graves

Where the war-god his bone watch keeps

From them there was sunshine aglint on the Sea

The heave of the flood-tide swells;

In their white-winged Ships they wander free

With the memory of lost farewells.

Gladly and gaily they went to their doom

With the flutter of Banners bright

Voiceless they sank in the Battle Gloom

With the wreckage adrift from the fight

A Bugle sounded its Charge through the night -

Their Battle-songs answered its call

With a banner aflutter before their eyes

Can you measure the bliss of their fall?

So their curses they heap on the Grey Submarine

When the shadowy ship glides by -

The assassin that lurks in the seaweed green

And hides from the light of the Sky

They met the fox in a fair open fight,

In the dauntless day of yore -

Now wolf-ships in the Shadows of the night

When the Battle-fleet sails from the Shore.

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23rd. Divisions Church

General Quarters & Drill

Still patrolling the Islands (Solomon's)

At 7.45 PM. there is to be a Solo Contest with the Brass Band.

A.B. Cader doing well.

Saw doctor, (still light duty)

Commander Hare passed out Seaman Gunner's Class today

Rumoured that H.M.A.S. Sydney and Melbourne have been in action with Armed Merchantmen and trawlers.

The Canteen has run out of Cigarettes, so things are very Stiff in the fag line

Nearly everybody in the Ship is now wearing Bandages from knocks, Boils, & Sores, and owing to Bad water a lot of the Stokers are getting cramps in the stomach.

24th. Saturdays Routine

We are receiving W.T. messages and are now steaming all possible speed with 8 Boilers (but where to God only knows) Rumour we expect to pick up ship in the first watch, nothing sighted.

25th. Divisions Church (Sunday)

Still steaming at full speed about 20 Knots.

Coal getting very low
Still attending the Doctor's
Requesting to see the Capt. for restoration of Conduct and Leave
26th. Divisions Paryer's
Started work in the Stokers P.O. Mess but it is no good to me
Arrived in Tulagi and prepared to coal Ship in dog watches
27th. 5 AM. Coal ship 850 Tons finished at 5.30 PM.
28th. SS Kanna went for stores to the Wharf
make and mend clothes clothes

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28th. Saw doctor and was ordered to bed and relieved out of the S.P.O. Mess
(Pulse 104/120)
29th. Divisions Church
finished provisioning Ship
One of the "Kanna's" Crew was sent to Hospital with appendicitis and was operated on by Drs. Marne & Roberts
30th. Divisions Church
Striking down stores and provisions
An A.B. Seaman of the SS "Kanna" fell down the forward hole and was seriously Hurt and was put in Bed in our Sick bay attended by Dr. Roberts, S.B.S. Gan's & S.B.A. Headley
I am still on the light duty list in the Sick Bay (P 80/88)
An advance of money was made to day, did not draw any, restored to first Class for Conduct & Leave and dated back for 3 Months.
Mr. Ryan went shooting for the Benefit of the Officers mess
If we don't get into a cool climate before long we shall all be down with fever or waisting disease or something like that. A Prisoner fell down and broke his leg.
We are surposed to be looking for a raider but I think that we are waisting good Coal and money for nothing, we are burning about 170 Tons of Coal a day costing about 850£
per day, taking everything into consideration we must cost the Government about 2000£ per day and there is nothing to see for it but agony and pain & abuse
December 1917
1st. Saturday's Routine
A Boiler in B Stokehole No. 3 is Condemned
2nd. Sunday 2nd. Divisions Church
Pipe down. (Light Duty, not allowed Leave)

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3rd. Divisions Church. Physical Drill
Lit up 4 Boilers A Groups and got under way at 12 noon. (P 94/110) Light Duty
Destination unknown. Speed 10 Knots
4th. Division Church
Arrived at Giyo at 9,30 AM. Solomon Islands and landed mail
Mr. Ryan came on board with 2 Turtles and a load of fish, we are having fresh fish for supper.
Sydney buzz very much favourite 30 to 1
Stoker McKenzie gave a turn at Snake charming, he having a snake for a pet.
Leave for the Port Watch from 2 PM to 6 PM.
I am informed that the patients in the Sick Bay have a very hard time trying to get ice, not being any to spare but they can supply the Governor ashore with plenty - more navy
(P 88/96) Light Duty (Engineer's messenger)
3 more Stokers went out to it to day, we will soon be all on the Sick list if there is not a change
2 to 3.30 PM Band practice
A.B. Manlove 14 days cells for insolence
A.B. Clarke in captains Report for being asleep & drunk at his post, aft deck sentry.
All the boys are airing their Blues on speck.
5th. Division Church
9 AM. left Giyo bound for New Georgia arriving about 1 PM Same day. (light Duty
P 110/120). Taking on board 2 Turtles and 20 bags of yams and fruit
6th. Church Divisions
The Alvine came alongside and landed 4 Turtles 2 Pigs & Yams and Fruit (for the Ward Room)

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6th. Thursday about 12 PM there was a great amount of wireless messages coming through (L.D. P 102/118)

The Captain was going for a five day trip but had to stop and he was not half mad.

7th. Division Church General Quarters, Drill

The Capt., Commander, Eng. Commandr. and nearly all the Officers are going ashore leaving only 2 Officers onboard.

Dr. Roberts left in the Steam boat to bring a nigger onboard who had been burnt with petrol

A landing party of 35 Stokers have landed for wood chopping but what it is for is a Query

Dr. Marne and S.B.S. Gan's landed with one stretcher and first Bag in case of accidents, they took there teas with them.

(L. Duty, Pulse 118/134 Weight 131 lbs. ? the 17th Sept. ? 150 lbs.) !

The Doctor gave me a through overhauling this morning

(The General Buzz is that we are now going to Malta to dock)

We are now in commission over 12 Month and General Leave has never been piped in this ship

5 PM. Steam boat arrived with the nigger and they are going to operate on him at once

A War canoe with 28 natives gave an exhibition round the Ship at 5.30

The wood chop party returned at 8.30 PM. very Hungry. The wood that they chopped

was for the auxiliary Boiler, what is the country coming to when they have to burn wood for coal.

Are we at war or are we up here for a pleasure trip for the Capt. & Eng. Comdr. for they are better than the King of England, and they have not one thought for the Ship Company or their comfort.

8th. Saturday Routine

Store wood in the lower Bunkers and chop it up

10,30 to 11.30 AM. Band Practice. Gun Quarters

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General Buzz Hong Kong the favourite, Signapore 2nd, Malta 3rd, Sydney Rank Outsider.

The Boy are very much in the dumps owing to being kept in the dark when the natives of various places can tell you more than the lower Deck of the Ship.

There are men on board here belonging to N.Z. who have not been home for over 7 years and it is very hard for them (so near yet so far)

(L.D. P, 96/120 - Iron Tonic)

Make and mend clothes 1.30 PM. to 5 PM.

Roll on Civilization and a breath of cool air and a few day rest.

Leave for Bathing was given this afternoon for the first time since we arrived.

Supper Turtle Steak & Turtle Soup for a change (it was given to us because it was going rotten, or else we should not have smelt it,)

9th. Sunday

Divisions Church & Band Practice

The notice was placed on the Board that the Ship will visit Brisbane at a short date and then proceed to Sydney after giving the Queensland Boy leave.

We are now stopping in harbour to economise coal while the Schooners Search the

Solomon Islands for the Germans who left the SS. Adler who are supposed to be trying to make a base in some of the Groups around here.

At 9 AM. left New Georgia and proceed to Gizo arrived at Jengo at 12.10 AM.

Evening Quarters

Leave was given to Starboard Watch for Bathing from 1 PM. to 6 PM.

Officers away bathing and fishing and Sailing, Good Sport for them but not for the Crews

(L.D. P 96/118 Iron Tonic)

The Boy are now in better spirits than they were yesterday

We have received Press News for the first time for 5 Weeks, but it's Pretty Good news

10th. Monday Division Church

68 Men landed in a wood chopping Party and took their teas with them

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Weather is very wet and this makes the work hard and dangerous. Stoker G. James was brought on board with an injured leg, he was attended by Dr. Marne who went with the party when they landed at 8.30 AM.

(L.D. Pulse 96.) (No Press News)

The Betting is a Hundred to 1 that we are not in Brisbane before Xmas and 10 to 1 that we are not in Sydney this year.

We are sending and receiving plenty of Wireless messages this last 24 Hour's but it is all in Cypher and we get to know nothing about it

The Steam boat run ashore and got afloat about 5 AM. this morning, the crew having a bad night as the boat heeled over to Port so that they thought that she was going over all together and being that there were Sharks about it was not very pleasant.

It will be pleasant to get to some civilized place so that we can get some news and some thing to read and a decent civilized feed amongst White people for we are fed up with the Black race for a spell.

When do we get the next mail

The Officers are away fishing and bathing

Leave for the Port Watch from 4.15 PM to 6 PM. for the purpose of Bathing

Great amusement was caused by Ld. St. Burrup and Stoker Chaplin commonly known as the Ship's Clowns.

They were giving an exhibition of ~~shak~~ snake charming with a piece of rope when Stoker McKenzie arrived on the scene with a real live snake and the clowns being rather timid of the snakes vomoused in very quick time much to the amusement of the audience who were watching while McKenzie followed them round the ship. (Steam boat went ashore on the Reef at 5.30 PM)

11th. Divisions Church

61 Stokers went ashore at 8.15 AM. under Mr. Dennis Engr. & Duston, Asst. Eng. for the purpose of cutting wood for auxiliary purposes but we still have 835 Tons of coal left and 243.3 Tons of Oil fuel Saw Dr. Roberts this morning who took a slide of Blood out of the lobe of my ear for test, for he says that I am enemic (P.102) L.D.

The General Buzz for the day is that we leave on the 18th. for Brisbane to give

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leave for the Queensland Boys before Christmas

Another of my work mates in the Stokehole in the Emden fight was made Leading Stoker (W. Wyatt) to day good Luck to him for he has a hard fight for it. I am now the Lone Star of Chili who has not got made nor am I likely not being interested in it. (No Press News)

We are trying to work up another Magazine

An issue was made in Slop today (Straw Hats)

We are going to try a new experiment wood and Oil fuel

A Water Snake was caught in the first cutter this morning about 1 ft. 6in. long and put in a Bottle.

We are now pested by swarms of flies from the Swamps

The Purser has got no soap in the Stores nor tobacco so things are looking bad

One half of the Ships Company is suffering with Prickly Heat and the other half with Boils and we are all fed up with being amongst the Black race, and in the Tropics.

12th. Division Church

61 Men under Mr. Dennis went wood chopping again.

The Divers went down to clean the under water fittings and clear the water line

There is a concert to night at 7.45 PM. Weather permitting

There was a disturbance in the Band owing to the Election of a Drum Major but that has been washed out until a later date

Make and Mend Clothes from 1.30 PM.

L. Duty Pulse 96. Took a slide of Blood from my finger tip, Dr. Marne

Leave was granted from 1.30 PM. to 6.30 PM. to the Port Watch for Bathing

12 Months Agoney completed how much more

Mr. Hodson went fishing in a Schooner

Wet weather concert prosponed until tomorrow, Weather Permitting

13th. at 7 AM. Mr. Hodson was brought on board with his left fore arm nearly blown off and his chest was all burnt with a dymanite explosion owing to a defective detonator which he was going to use to blow up the fish

A.B. Giles LTO was hurt in the Stomach at the same time

The Doctors operated on Mr. Hodson at nine AM. and are still working 1 PM.

Did not see the doctor to day owing to the operation

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13th December 1917

HMC Yacht arrived 1 PM Gizo

61 Men went wood chopping under Mr. Dennis to day
 Leave is piped for Bathing from 4.30 PM to 6.30 PM
 There is another disturbance in the Band, eventing AB. McKenzie to resign
 Press News not very good today
 It is said that Mr. Hodson had the charge in his hand holding it with a pair of plyers while he greased
 the end, in working the plyers he caused a spark which caused the explosion and shattered his arm.
 Queries ?
 Is the H.M.A.S. Brisbane a light Cruiser
 Or an Ocean Tug, Or a common Tramp carrying cocoa nuts for niggers
 Or a Mail Boat & Hospital Ship for niggers
 Or has she turned into a pleasure yacht for the Officers as they are all taking turns in going away in
 Schooners for fourteen days rest
 While the Seamen are Holy Stoning the Decks with Bibles and the Stokers are ashore in the fever
 swamps chopping wood -
 it looks as if the Australian navy is going to follow the Canadian Navy (Stoney Broke) no money in the
 Ship to pay.
 What answer will the Captain give to the Naval Board in the Hodson Case as this took place inside the
 limit
 Will the Board of fisheris have anything to say in the Questions
 Or will it be put down to Detonator practice so that they may clear themselves and so get him a
 pension
 The Butcher is going away Killing to morrow at 6.30 AM.
 14th. Surg. Marne went away at 5.30 AM. this morning for a pleasure trip for 14 day.
 Division Church
 Started Holy stoning Decks and generally cleaning Ship
 = Knows what for, it may be Brisbane and it may not.
 Querie: Where will we be Xmas Day (betting Tulagi)

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Saw Dr. Roberts this morning Pulse 98/124 (Light Duty)
 General Quarters & Loaders Drill for the flat foots
 Run out of Butter and fresh meat
 Leave was given for Bathing from 4.30 PM. to 6.30 PM.
 The Concert last night was a great Success
 Ldg. Sto. Burrup and Sto. Chaplin the two Scoty were very good
 Chair man Ld. Sto. Burrup and his dog a Cockatoo
 The Band played very well in fact it is the best I have heard them play
 Ldg. Sto. Rassmussen took the part of a girl very well in fact she played the part of a flapper with
 Success much to the Boys delight, the Song of the Girl I left behind me and other thoughts
 There is a meeting to night for the reformation of the Band owing to late disturbance

Programme of Concert 14.12.1917 Gizo Solomon Islands

Selection		Band
Song	Sands of the Desert	Taylor
" Comic		Broadly
Instrumental Duet	Trombone & cornet	Bandmast & AB. McKenzie
Song	Maggie	Newman
Song & Patter		Chaplin & Burrup
Song	A long long way from home	Laster
Song	Sailing	Mr. Gordon
Song	Comic	OXO (Sto. Ward)
	Band Selection	
Song	Mother Mackree	Roberts
Recitation	Bing Bing	Bisby
Song	Comic	OXO
Song	Topical	Tempest PO
Song & Patter		Chaplin & Burrup
Song	Row Row	Rassmussen (Flapper)

Final Band
God Save the King

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15th. Saturday

Scrub Deck and used Bibles and Sand

60 Men went ashore chopping wood until 12 Noon

Make and mend Clothes

The Captain is ashore with the Ladies

Saw the Doctor this morning Pulse 100/112. Light Duty (So keeping very Quiet)

We landed the nigger who was burnt owing to be lousey and Dirty.

The Bed had to be disinfected.

It is reported that the Commander & Doctor has been recalled

No Pay & no Soap & no Tobacco, the Sailor's Joy and comfort

Mr. Hodson is progressing very well, this morning T. 100

We have now to buy Butter if we want it at 2/3d. - ½ lb. tins.

Stoker McKenzie got Bit with his Snake but his Antidote proved Successful

16th. Sunday 12- 1917

Church Division

The Band played the Captain Rounds

Saw Doctor Marne this Morning (Pulse 116/136) Light Duty

Stoker McKenzie operated on the Snake and drew his fangs

The Ship has 2 Small Goats as Ship Pets they are a well marked and a well matched pair, 2 More

Goats for Killing and 2 Pigs all for the Officer's

General Buzz Christmas Tulaji (Betting 10 to 1 Tulaji, Brisbane 100 to 1, Sydney outside)

Received fresh Meat this morning, a bullock was presented to us by a Planter along with the Goats for Pets.

It is a curious instance but about this time last year a Planter who was dynamiting fish got his hand blown off in the the same place and about the same date as Mr. Hodson.

He visited the Ship yesterday and Saw Mr. Hodson who is progressing favourably

Evening Quarters.

Band Practice, Pipe Down.

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17th. Mr. Ryan is in Bed with Malaria and 6 other cases is in the Sick Bay

The Wood Party went ashore this morning to send of the wood which we are stowing in A Bunkers. (about 60 Tons)

Saw Doctor this morning P. 120R/136E Light Duty (M.C.O.)

We had a exhibition with four war canoes and Dr. Marne had a trip round the Ship in one

The Divers are down clearing the Ship Bottom

Band meeting at 10.15 AM.

There is no more ink or Blotting paper in the Ship

Mr. Hodson very well T.100

There has been trouble over the washing water. No Stoker no matter how black or greasery has to use no more than 2 Hand bowls of water to Bath himself

But the Officer's who do nothing all day can have a whole Bath full, which only goes to prove that the Stoker's in the ship are reckoned as little more than venous reptiles or unclean beasts and are treated as such. (No Press News)

No wonder that we are singing the Hymn of Hate.

Evening Quarters 5 PM.

Four War Canoes came round the ship and gave a display then the Captain and Dr. Roberts, Mr. FitzPatrick & the Parson and Dr. Marne had a trip round the ship and up the harbour. The natives were given a tea on the Quarter deck of Bread and Salmon and fruit and Tea, and then the Band played for them. So we now turn Concert and tea fight ship for niggers.

18th. Gizo Divisions Church

We got the remainder of the wood on board today and the divers finished the under water fitting

Made up tropic 26 day full (myself 25 day)

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18th. December

Saw Dr. Roberts to day (P 100/126 - L.D.)
 There is now 10 Malaria patients in the Sick Bay
 Up to the present the wood is not much of a Success only being able to keep 100 lbs. of Steam
 Is there any hope of getting to Sea and having a drop of cool breeze instead of this Stiffling Heat
 Evening Quarters Band Practice
 Was the Captains notice with reference to Sydney a blind to keep the Ships Company or is there any
 hopes of seeing Sydney before 1920 (I dont think)
 6 Cases of Malaria to day
 19th. Divisions Church
 A.B. Newman got 14 Days Cells for Theft
 SS. "Balama" arrived with with meat for the Captain from Tulagi
 Lime the upper Deck to get it white
 Saw Dr. Roberts, says I am getting alright P 100/118 L.D.
 The Commander arrived Back this Morning and brought back a lot of curicar from the other Islands
 Leave from 1.15 until 6.30 PM for Bathing
 General Buzz Tulagi for Christmas
 Quinine Parade 11.30 AM. = 10 grs. (feeling light headed)
 The Captain bring visitors, Come and See my 400 White Slaves, and they come
 20th. Divisions Church
 Started painting the mess decks things are looking like going to some white port
 There is now 24 Cases of Malaria and 40 Suspects
 Saw Dr. Roberts carry on light duty
 Light up C Boiler room at 4 AM.
 21st. Divisions Church
 Got under way at 9.15 AM. for Tulagi
 The nigger that was burnt was brought onboard again for passage to Tulagi

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Band Practice at 8 PM.
 22nd. Saturday Routine
 Arrived at Tulagia at 9.45 AM.
 Died out 3 Boilers in C Boiler room and Shut of Main Steam
 Sent Barge and cutter ashore for fresh water
 The Paymaster and 3 Hands landed for Killing at 2.45 PM.
 Mr. Butt landed with 2 Stokers at 2.15 PM.
 Gave a Sub to the Hands to day at 6.15 PM.
 8 PM. Band to play on Well Deck weather Permitting
 Mr. Ryan to Duty again (Malaria)
 Ships Company discontented owing to so many Rumours about Sydney and being hung up in Malaria
 infested Islands and Cannibals, our main .?. is Bread and Bully Beef, Iron Rations
 Band played on the Quarter Deck
 Programme

- | | | |
|-----|-------------|---------------------------|
| 1. | March | Gippsland |
| 2. | Waltz | Mello |
| 3. | Intermezzo | Rendz-vous |
| 4. | Selection | Invercargill |
| 5. | March | Bric a Brack |
| 6. | Cornet Solo | Your Eyes have told me so |
| 7. | Waltz | Vndae Maris |
| 8. | Valse Limbo | Carresante |
| 9. | March | Wairou |
| 10. | March | Royal Duke |

The King

Pipe Down

23rd. Sunday

Divisions Church. Captain's Rounds

A notice was put on the Notice Board this morning with reference to the Ship movement.

Owing to the 19 deserters from the concentration camp in New Zealand being captured I now propose to take a cruise round the Gilbert Island and then to the Fiji Island

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from there to Sydney probably (via Brisbane) arriving about the end of January.

I notice that the captain has not been ashore so much this time in Tulagi (is it true that a certain threatened to shoot him for being intimate with His Wife)

The Band went ashore for marching practice

The water that we got from shore is not fit for drinking being full of Malaria Germ

Is it true that the Captain is afraid to go to Sydney (for there is ugly that way)]

Ldg. Signalman got 29 days and deprived of rate and Badges and also Signalman Smythe for being asleep on duty punishment suspended until arrives in Sydney

The Paymaster went for a picnic on one of the Islands

24th. December

Divisions Church

General Routine and Clean Ship

at 10.30 AM. Went ashore on a message to the Commissioner C. Workman

at 3.PM. 48 Native Prisoner's came on board to trim coal from the reserve bunkers to relieve our men for Xmas Holidays

The meat that we got the other day is now rotten

Our Sailing is now delayed until the arrival of the Mail Boat on the 27th or 28th.

A.B. Smith who fell down the Hole of the SS."Kanna" our collier was on board to day and complains that he got no treatment since he left the Ship.

Christmas and everything dead Quiet and the Boys Spirits about a thousand below zero

The Germans say that they hope for peace in about 3 Months (Hope to God it is Truth)

Cigaretts 2/6 per Tin and full of Salt perte

We have Just had a look at some of our Sweet Spuds and Ho she seemed

I believe they have dug up a bottle of beer from some where, let us hope so

The Commissioner Mr. Workman gave a lecture on the Gilbert Islands which was very interesting

The Captain then thanked him and wished him and the Ship Company the Compliments of the season which was returned by the Commissioner but the response on the Ships Company's side was negative, although we thanked the Commissioner for his lecture.

The Band played a few Carrols

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25th December Xmas Day

Christmas day as arrived but the Spirits of the Ships Company are not very bright and the Captain and the officers failed to walk round and wish us the compliments of the Season as is the usual form which only goes to prove the class of men we have got in command. The Selfishness of Such is detrimental to the good behaviour of the Service and does not command respects from the lower deck. received a bottle of Beer had to pay 2/- for it

The dinner Oh my God, but we do not blame the paymaster

In the evening we had a Sing Song

26th. Divisions Church

Carried on the General work of the Ship, and Xmas is as far away as ever.

Leave was given from 4 PM. to 6.30 PM.

Evening Quarters

27th. Divisions Church

Still at Anchor in Tulagia Generally cleaning up the Ship and awaiting further Orders and Mail Boat

28th. Divisions Church

Drill and General work in Clean Ship

Leave was given from 4 PM. to 6.30 PM.

Evening Quarters

29th. Divisions Church

General work, God Orders to light up 4 Boilers in C Boileroom at 11 AM.

2.45 PM. try main engines, 3.40 PM. Got under way at 9 Knots (180 R)

Tulagi to Ocean Island

30th. Divisions Church

Sundays Routine Captain's Inspection

Pipe Down at 11.30 AM.

31st. Divisions Church
General Quarters, Clear Ship Action Drill
At Sea, Steaming 10 Knots
New Year's Eve
Good Night
Good Bye 1917.

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January 1st. 1918
A Happy New Year to you All.
At Sea (No Beer)
Divisions Church
Steaming 10 Knots for Narru or Pleasant Island, arrived at 3.30 PM and moored up Bow and Stearn to two Bouys
The Captsin went ashore and brought a few of the inhabitants onboard for to have a look over the Ship (this is an Island captured from the Germans)
Things are very Quiet on board the Boy a bit down hearted (No Press news)
Lit up B Boilers at 8 PM. and tryed main Engine at 10 PM.
Got under way at 10.35 PM. (Band Practice)
2nd. January. Divisions Church
Drill and General work, clean Ship and Gun Quarters
12.20 PM. Make and mend Clothes (otherwise make love or sleep, read; or go mad.)
Our Coal is getting very low about 250 Tons
3rd. Divisions Church
8 AM. Started Coaling from Shore the coal was brought of in Surf boats and is very slow work for up 8 PM we got 184.5 tons we then piped down for the night, the coal is full of phosperus and no good, and it makes very hard work for the men down below on the boilers they have to have 3 inches of air to burnt it.
4th. Started coaling at 7.45 AM. and finished at about 10.45 AM. washed down the deck 11.45 AM. dinner
At 2PM. leave was given to the Starboard watch, for a cricket match and a grand Socical given by the Commissioner. The band landed and played at the match, tea was provided and also free Beer. After the match, the Band and the Team was taken down to Dinner which was a great Success.

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The Programme was very good given by the Ships Company and friend from Shore and lasted until 10.50 PM., there was plenty to drink the band played 4 items, this is the first time a large ship has been up here for 3 Year's
5th. Saturday Saturday Routine Clean ship
Left Ocean Island for the Gilbert Islands. The weather fine.
5 PM. Band practice until 6.30 PM. Clean Instruments.
6th. Sunday Captain Rounds
Divisions Church.
Arrived at Narru Island at 2 PM. and anchored
The Captain went ashore in the Gally
7th. Divisions Church Physical Drill
General work during the fore noon,
At 1.15 PM. Mustered by the Open list for the Referendem which lasted until 3 PM.
The Butcher then killed 3 Pigs at 5 PM. the Paymaster bought 6 more
The R.C. Missionary has been here over 20 Years
Got ready for Coaling, the SS. "Kanna" arrived about 5 PM.
8 PM Band Practice on the Well Deck.
Our Scupper's have run red with Blood, though it was only Pig's Blood, it is better than Some of the German's Blood. Well roll on Sydney
8th. Started Coaling ship at day break from SS "Kanna" and employed all the niggers who came onboard sightseeing and they seemed to like it very much.
finished at 4.30 PM 850 Tons.
Left Narrutir at 5.45 PM for Tarama at 10 Knots.
Pipe Down.

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9th. Division Church

Clean ship, General Drill

Arrived Tarama at 1 PM. and anchored about 5 Miles from the Shore the Captain went ashore in his Gally

The SS. "St. Gorege" Left just as we arrived.

Make and mend clothes

Band Practice 5.15 PM

The Captain came onboard and also 2 boat loads of Niggers who had the full Scope of the Ship to themselves, and to play around with the guns also

10th. Division Church

about 100 Niggers come on board voluntry labour and we employed them to holly stone the decks (This is White Austrailia)

Shipwright Barr and the Blacksmith were punished by warrant for disrespect to the captain on shore at Ocean Island. The Captain and Eng. Commander were walking up the path behind them and they did not see them until the Captain said Get out of the road Damn You, at which Barr looked round in an insolent manner.

Shipwright Barr deprived of 3 badges and 90 day leave ..?..

Blacksmith " " 1 GC Badge & 21 days " "

The Shipwright looses his GC medal and about 2d. a day of his pension and 9d. a day for 6 months, this Q.D. Justice in the navy.

2 Boat loads of natives come on board for passage to the Ellis Islands (So we are now passenger Ship for Niggers)

11th. Division Church

Got under way at 8 AM. Speed 15 Knots for the Gilberts, at about 2 PM we Sighted a Ship on the reefs and altered course to investigate and found Her to be the SS "Bremnar" North Coast line, the Surf was breaking very heavy over her and her funnel

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was washed down but otherwise from a upper deck point of view she looked alright

The Sea boat was lowered and went to have a look at her and reported that She was hard and fast on the reef. (Appamama Island ? a Hopper Island)

Hoisted Sea boat and proceeded on our way

Band Practice in the dog Watches.

By the way we haad a great change of Diet to day (Fresh Pork fresh potato) a Real Banquet (an Emenace Gorge)

8 PM. Man and Arm Ship

12th. Saturdays Routine

Captain's Rounds (8 AM. 344.5 Knots)

Ease down to 9 Knots owing to burning to much coal.

12.30 PM. Pipe down, Make and mend clothes.

4.15 PM Evening Quarter's

5 PM Band Practice

13th. Sunday Church

Hands Muster by the Ledger but owing to the rain the Seamen only got there paper's

8 AM. 225.5 Knots (700 Tons of Coal left)

Speed 10½ Knots Probably arrive to morrow

Two Seaman McKenzie & Jenkins received V.G. for character and there punishment 90 days washed out, I wonder what the Bombay 7 got, we are anxious to know if it is another case of Q.D. Justice with the Seaman favourites

Evening Quarters 4.20 PM.

5 PM Band Practice

There are about 30 Stokers in the Commanders Report for not going to Church (which is a lot of Rot, and should be volantry as it only causes a lot of Bad language and

Blasphemy & crime

14th. Church Division

Arrived at the Island of Funa Tuti in the Ellis Group but owing to bad Weather we did not stop but

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(14th January) proceeded strait to Suva

At 8 AM. the Telemotor Gear went bung and again at 11AM. at 11.15 AM. the order was given to light up A and B Boilers and die out C for Cleaning and then we are to proceed on 12 Boilers, Names and addresses for leave are to be given in to night.

Transfer to Bank £13 " " up to the End of December 1917

15th. Division Church

Weather very rough and heavy Rain's and our mess decks are flooded which causes much discomfort and our food is getting very low.

We are steaming 15-3 per Hour and expect to get to Suva about 12 tomorrow

Band Practice at 5 PM.

16th. Sighted Land right ahead at about 5 AM. Steamed down the West Coast of the ~~l~~ Island and arrived at Suva at 12.25 PM, and Started to prepare Ship for coaling.

Leave was given to the Starboard Watch from 3 PM to 6 PM. The Port Watch carry on ready for coal Ship. Money was payed to Starboard Watch (£2)

Dr. Roberts is Sick in Bed.

Up to date we have burnt about 15.785 Ton of Oil Fuel & Coal or about 17.300 Ton's of Coal.

Band Practice at 6.30 PM.

Watch aboard of Stoker's turn to and Blow through Tubes and dump ashes and generally clean up the Stoke Holds and Engine Rooms

We have now about 276 Tons of Coal left and we expect to get 600 Ton's tomorrow

Pipe down.

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17th. Started Coaling Ship at 6 AM., 850 Tons to commence, we finished at 5.15 PM

Leave was given to the Port Watch from 5.30 PM to 10.30

18th. Division Church. (AB Jenkins to prison 90 days)

General clean up and prepare for paint Ship

Hand's make and mend clothes 12.30 PM

Leave to the Starboard Watch from 2 PM until 12.30 PM.

19th. Saturday's Routine

No Rounds and no Band Practice

Leave for the Port Watch from 2 PM until 10.15 PM

Hands make and mend clothes.

20th. Division Church (Sunday)

The Engine Room ratings musted by the open List for their Paper's.

Leave from 2 PM to 10.15 PM.

Make and mend clothes. Pipe Down

Those requiring money to put their names in the Ship's Office.

Dr. Roberts went to Hospital, Mr. Goodchild confined to his cabin, and there is about 20 on the Sick list.

21st. Division Church

Started painting Ship

Ld. Sto. Bonner went to Hospital with a poisoned arm and it is stated that if he had stoped another Day he would have died through it

Leave for the Port Watch 4 PM to 10.15 PM

22nd. Division Church

Carried on Painting Ship

Stoker Rodger's went to Hospital (S)

Fired 303 from 6 in. Guns

Band to play on shore from 7.30 PM until 9.30 PM

Leave to the Star Watch 4 PM 10.15 PM

Advanced £2 .0 .0

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23 Wednesday Division Church

General Drill and work

Dr. Mahon is in bed Sick

Leave was given from 2 PM. Went out firing sub Caliber, came back at 3 PM.

24th. Division Church

Still painting Ship and generally Cleaning the stokeholds ready for Sydney

Band Practice ready for playing ashore tomorrow

Leave for watch

25th. Division Church

Finishing the painting and getting ready to take in 200 Tons of Coal

The Banded landed at 7.30 to play with the Suva Band ashore in aid of the Red Cross funds, a success, we afterwards went to Supper in the Melbourne Hotel, arriving onboard at 11.15 PM.

26th. Divisions Church

Started Coaling at 7 AM. native labour but we had to turn to our Selves as it was too slow, finished at 12 noon.

Weigh anchor at 1.30 PM and leave for Sydney, all the lads are Happy

27th. Sunday Divisions Church

Captain Rounds (Distance to 8 AM. 267.2 Miles)

The Band played a programme at 4.30 PM

Speed about 16 Knots wished to be more

28th. Divisions Church

General Quarters and Work. Clean Ship

Band Practice Evening Quarters

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29th. Divisions Church

General Quarters and Clean Ship

Steaming 15 Knots for Sydney

Evening Quarters Band Practice

30th. Division Church

Served out Presentation money £1 .4 .2

General Routine

Band Practice already for going up Harbour tomorrow

Recommended for Harbour Service by Doctor

Evening Quarters.

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"The Man Below "

1. The furnace gleams, & fiery seams lick thro the open doors,
Where the Stoker, stripped, with sweat bedripped skid o'er the stokehold floors,
And the walls of steel, & a quiv'ring Keel, rip thru the swirling seas,
For the Stoker knows, as the coal he throws, his the pulse of the Power he frees.
Where the Battle-bells ring, his steel kettles sing the song of the scalding steam,
For the rising gauge he knows can wage the swing of his bridled team.
2. He scorns the shot that strikes his Pot as he feeds the floating hell,
He craves no rest, nor cools his breast, and he asks no breathing spell.
For it's up to him to stoke & trim tho' tides rip thru the plates.
For the Stoker brave has no thought to save but the lives of his deck mess-mates.
Oh! The Admirals' bold, and the crew all told,
But the man that heaves the coal,
Is the best of all, for he kicks the Ball
That scores the winning Goal.

[Transcribed by Jacqueline Lamprecht for the State Library of New South Wales]