

COMMANDER'S OFFICE
HMAS MELBOURNE
Sunday 8th June, 1969

DAILY ORDERS FOR MONDAY 9TH JUNE 1969

Daily Quote:

"A fool and his money are soon parted." GEORGE BUCHANAN

Routine: Modified Daily Harbour.

Additions to Routine:

1100 Dinner for all seamen, wire handling parties required for shifting ship
1130 Remainder of the hands to dinner
1145 All seamen wire handling parties join up part of ship.

Events

1200 (approx) Slip
1230 (approx) Move into dry dock

NOTES

1. MOVE ASHORE

On completion of securing in the dock all personnel except duty watches will be transported to their shore accommodation. The minimum amount of gear is to be carried. Personnel are to take the following bedding - pillow, sheets and pillow case, counterpanes. Duty watch personnel are reminded that it will be necessary to bring back their bedding to the ship on duty days. On completion of draft in routines leave will be given.

2. DRESS

Personnel are to conform to the dress regulations of the establishment in which they are accommodated. Full No.10A's are to be worn outside the ship and barrack areas except when travelling in a service vehicle which is proceeding from barracks to the ship or vice-versa. Overalls must be carried and may not be worn outside the ship.

3. LEAVE CARDS

When personnel proceed ashore from their accommodation they are to hand in leave cards in accordance with Depot Orders. Leave cards are to be handed in when returning onboard MELBOURNE to commence work, and are to be collected as personnel proceed to their accommodation.

4. ROUTINE

The following routine will be worked onboard by non-duty watches until further notice:-

0700	All hands turn to
1015-1030	Stand easy
1245	Clear up decks
1300	Secure
1315	Buses depart

5. DUTIES

All duties carried out at present will continue to be carried out. Additional personnel may be required by depots ashore. There will be a Duty Officer at TERROR at all times. Duties will change at 0900 daily. This Officer is responsible for all MELBOURNE discipline and activities. Officers will be Lieutenants of all branches and will be taken from those detailed for shore patrol duties in XOTM 45/69. Duty Officer for Monday 9th June will be LEUT DALY.

6. SHORE PATROL

Commencing Monday 9th June two able sailors are to join up with RN Shore Patrol at 1200 daily. Duties will be from 1200 to 1200. Dress No.10's and No.7A's are to be taken. Sailors named on daily orders are to report to 5N MAA's Office at 1030 on the day of their duty. Sailors for this duty on Monday 9th June are ABQMG RICHARDSON: NAAH DAVIS.

7. MESSAGE

The following has been received from FOCAF.

"Seldom are sailors subjected to such a harrowing spectacle as that which faced the Captain, Officers and Ships Company of HMAS MELBOURNE in the early hours of the 3rd June, 1969.

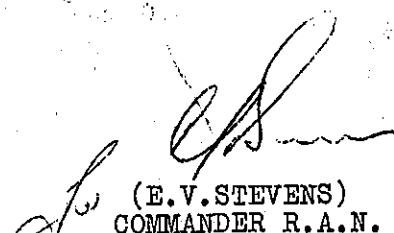
2. I was a witness to the event and am fully conscious of the acts of courage and bravery which were enacted around me.

3. As the Officer in Tactical Command of SEATO Task Force 472 when the tragedy occurred I owed responsibility to every ship in my command regardless of nationality.

4. As the Flag Officer Commanding HMA Fleet I am proud to be associated with a team who, regardless of their age or experience in the Naval Service are capable of reacting efficiently and effectively in the middle of the night to the extent that they saved every man who it was possible to save in a tragedy which few of us would ever contemplate was possible.

5. For the quick reaction, for the aid given by other ships of the Task Force, for the exemplary conduct under stress and immediate response to the emergency I give credit to you all personally and to your training in the Royal Australian Navy.

6. I am very proud to be the Fleet Commander of such a team."


(E.V. STEVENS)
COMMANDER R.A.N.

HMAS MELBOURNE
AT SEA

Wednesday 4th June, 1969

DAILY ORDERS FOR THURSDAY 5TH JUNE 1969

Daily Quote:

"The mill will never grind with water that has passed under.
DOWDNEY

Routine: Daily Sea

Additions to Routine

0730 Morning Prayers -5R Chapel

0800 Clear Lower Deck for General Payment

1300 Mismusters for payment

Events

0800 General Payment

CPO's	AX	LEUT DAVIES
PO's	AX	LEUT REIDY
LH's	Stbd After Ladder	LEUT DALEY
A-G	FX	LEUT ABEL
H-N	FX	LEUT SPROGE
O-Z	Port After Ladder	LEUT FARMER
Mismusters	FX	LEUT VICKERIDGE

NOTES

1. ADVANCING CLOCKS

Clocks will be advanced $\frac{1}{2}$ hour at 2359G. Middle watchmen will close up at the normal time and only have a $3\frac{1}{2}$ hour watch. 2359G will become 0029GH.

2. ETA SINGAPORE

Our ETA Singapore will be at 0800GH, Friday weather permitting.

3. MESSAGES

The following messages have been received by the Captain.

From FOCAP. "Today 3rd June, 1969, has been a tragic day for each one of us.

There is a certain bond which exists between men of the sea and I feel that it is tragedies such as we experienced in the early hours of this morning which unites us clearly in our daily round and common tasks.

We mourn those colleagues in USS FRANK E. EVANS who lost their lives and we feel deeply for those whom they left behind.

I have heard of a number of acts of heroism which occurred at the time of the collision. This is no more than I would have expected from the Ships Company of HMAS MELBOURNE.

I know that your Officers and men will continue to support you mentally, morally and physically and continue to operate as the fine team they have developed into over the last few months, in spite of many setbacks, disappointments and frustrations.

Finally, I express my personal gratitude to those many gentleman in HMAS MELBOURNE who have quietly and unobtrusively shown marks of respect and loyalty to me throughout this trying day."

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3. MESSAGES con't

From ACNB "From Chief of Naval Staff. You will have learned with dismay of the collision between HMAS MELBOURNE and USS FRANK E. EVANS. Full details are not yet known but it is certain there have been USN casualties and I have sent a message of sympathy on your behalf to the USN Chief of Naval Operations.

2. Inevitably this incident will cause a recollection of the MELBOURNE-VOYAGER collision. The important point is that no one should pre-judge this recent collision until all facts are known.

3. An inquiry will take place and until it is completed hearsay, rumour, or inexpert opinion should not be given credence."

From Chief of Naval Operations, U.S. Navy

From CNO - "At a time of sorrow for sailors everywhere, be assured that we stand with MELBOURNE and the rest of the great Royal Australian Navy. Please know our grateful appreciation for your prompt, effective rescue operation without which the loss would have surely been greater. T.H.M. MOORER, ADMIRAL: US Navy."

4. AMENITIES FUND

It is intended to attempt to obtain the same prices for National, Sharp and all camera equipment in Singapore that you have already paid for purchases to be made in Hong Kong.

If this cannot be managed, a repayment on all articles ordered under these sections of the scheme will be made on Monday 9th June.

All orders already placed for Noritake China and anything already ordered through C.T.Hoo, Singapore will remain as is.

5. FRESH WATER

Over the past few days the consumption of fresh water has greatly increased. Unless this consumption is reduced water restrictions will have to be imposed. YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED.

6. ISSUES AND LOSSES OF STORES - 3RD JUNE

Personnel who have not already recovered items of bedding, stretcher etc. used in caring for survivors from USS EVANS are to report to 5E Victualling Office today.

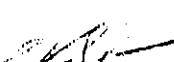
Permanent Loan List holders are to check items on their charge and report any losses, on form SA116 through SONS or SOV. The whereabouts of any loan overalls, towels, gym shoes, bedding are to be reported to 5E Victualling Office.

7. STRATEGIC RESERVE ALLOWANCE

As previously advised, payment of Strategic allowance up to and including the 29th June will be included in payment on 5th June. An adjustment may be necessary depending on our sailing date from Singapore. Any overpayments will be deducted from pay due on 19th June and 3rd July.

8. BEER PARTY

The following personnel will form beer party during the forenoon Thursday 5th June, they are to muster in the Stbd PV space at 0900.
EM's WYNN: COUGHLIN: BEAR: MACKEY: NIMAE's HEILMAN: COLISHAW: HILL: BAHLLAM: EMAW ETHERTON: ERIC WILLIAMSON: NAMW BRAY: NAAH's MOYSEY: POWELL: HODGE: CASTLE: THIELE: HARTLEY: HUNTER: SFD's CHAPMAN: BUGLASS: FLARRETY: MCLEOD: ME's TULK: OSTLER: REYNOLDS: BAIN: EADES: BITTERS: MONTEITH: AUSTIN: AB's KHAN: STRETTLES: CAHILL: SEAL: MYERS: PATTEN: ORD's BLYTH: COLLINS: MARTIN. I.E: MARTIN. JONES: TRENAMEN: KEARNEY: CLARKE: ANSTEE: KINDER: RICHARDSON: DAVENPORT.


(E.V. STEVENS)
COMMANDER R.A.N.