

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.A.F. Form A.50.
(Feb. '33.)

No. of Sheet..... 100

JANUARY 1937.

of (Unit or Formation) No. 5 (Fleet Co-operation) Squadron.

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
ADELAIDE	1st.	Seagull A2 - 5 was disembarked from H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" and flown via the coastal route to RICHMOND.	
SYDNEY	5th	The remaining personnel of H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" Detachment and stores were disembarked to RICHMOND.	
"	21st.	No. 1229 Corpl. BRINSLEY, G.S. Photographer embarked in H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA"	
"	22nd.	H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" Detachment, complete with aircraft (Seagull A2 - 12) stores and personnel (Flying Officer W.N. GIBSON, No. 1797 A.C.I. MORRIS, A.J.G. Flight Fitter, No. 1833 A.C.I. GERRARD, G.W. Flight Fitter, No 1900 A.C.I. LAUGHTON, E. Flight Rigger and No. 1925, A.C.I. LEE, C.H. Flight Fitter.) were embarked.	
"	28th	H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" Detachment complete with aircraft (Seagull A2 - 6) stores and personnel (Flying Officer A.X. RICHARDS, No. 1033, Corpl. RUSSELL, J.R., Ftr Aero. No. 1612 A.C.I. FORSYTH, S.G. Metal Rigger, No. 1921 A.C.I. DURAND P.J., Photographer and No. 1811 A.C.I. MASON. D.S., Fitter Aero.) were embarked also H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" Detachment complete with aircraft (Seagull A2 - 7), stores and personnel ((Flight Lieutenant C.W. PEARCE, No. 598 F/Sgt. SANDERSON, R. Fitter Aero, No. 646 L.A.C. CHERRY, E.G.L., Metal Rigger, No. 2098, A.C.I. MILNER, A.E.D. Flight Rigger, No. 1890. A.C.I. LARGE, H.P. Flight Fitter and No. 1915 A.C.I. WALDIE, W.G. Photographer).	

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FEBRUARY, 1937

of (Unit or Formation).....No. 5.....(FLEET CO-OPERATION) SQUADRON.

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
JERVIS BAY	1 -17	Exercises were carried out with aircraft attached to H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA", "AUSTRALIA" and "SYDNEY" while H.M.A. Squadron was operating at JERVIS BAY. <i>A 2-4 in</i>	
	13th.	No. 756, Corpl. BLAKE, T.H. Metal Rigger and No 1065 L.A.C. FOLEY, E, Storekeeper, were attached to R.A.A.F. Headquarters for duty with the R.A.A.F. Coronation Contingent.	
SYDNEY.	17th.	H.M.A. Squadron returned to SYDNEY and departed for HOBART on 20th February, 1937.	
RICHMOND.	23rd.	Seagull A2 - 7 (Pilot - Flight Lieutenant J. ALEXANDER and crew - No. 1155, Sergt. KERR, A.G., Fitter Aero and No 1731 A.C.I. BARNES, G.H. W/T OperaterMechanic) was made available to assist the Council of Scientific Research in further observations of Pelagic Fish Movements in southern waters.	
SYDNEY	27th.	A party of ten airmen from the Squadron was provided to form a Station Detachment to participate in the New South Wales Police Carnival at the SYDNEY Show ground. <i>BAW</i>	

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MARCH, 1937.

of (Unit or Formation) No.5 (Fleet Co-operation) Squadron.

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Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RICHMOND	5	His Excellency, the Lieutenant Governor of NEW SOUTH WALES (Sir Phillip STREET) visited R.A.A.F. Station RICHMOND, and inspected No. 5 Squadron.	
RICHMOND	25	Flight Lieutenant J. ALEXANDER assumed temporary command of the Squadron, vice Squadron Leader C.B. WINCOTT, R.A.F. who proceeded by air to HOBART for embarkation in H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA"	
HOBART	27	Flight Lieutenant A.X. RICHARDS disembarked from H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" at HOBART and proceeded to RICHMOND by air.	
RICHMOND.	28	The observation of pelagic fish movements was completed and Seagull A2-7 and crew returned to RICHMOND.	

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APRIL, 1937.

of (Unit or Formation) No.5 (Fleet Co-operation) Squadron.

No. of Sheet

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RICHMOND.	9	The Right Honourable R.G. MENZIES, Attorney General, Federal Government, visited R.A.A.F. Station, RICHMOND, and inspected No.5 Squadron.	
	22	Seagull A2-4 and crew (Flight Lieutenant J. ALEXANDER, No.1135 Sergeant KERR, A.C. and No.1731 A.C.I. BARNES, G.H.) proceeded to DARWIN to carry out reconnaissance and photographic work in co-operation with H.M.A.S. "MORESBY" and Civil Aviation officials.	
JERVIS BAY	26	Squadron Leader C.B. WINCOTT, R.A.F., disembarked from H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" at JERVIS BAY and proceeded to RICHMOND by air.	
RICHMOND		Pilot Officer A.N. HICK proceeded to JERVIS BAY by air for embarkation in H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY".	
JERVIS BAY		Flight Lieutenant ^{PEARCE.} ceased attachment to H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" and was attached to H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA."	

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(Feb. '33.)No. of Sheet *KA*of (Unit or Formation) No. 5 (Fleet Co-operation) Squadron.

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
<u>M A Y 1937.</u>			
NORTH AUSTRALIA	1st to 31st.	Seagull A2-4 and crew (Flight Lieutenant J. ALEXANDER, No.1135 Sergt. KERR, A.C. Fitter "ero, No.1731 A.C.I. BARNES, G.H. W/T Op. Mech) continued with the reconnaissance and photographic work in co-operation with H.M.A.S. "MORESBY" and Civil Aviation Officials and operated between DARWIN - GROOTE ISLAND - ROPER RIVER and VANDERLIN ISLAND.	
RICHMOND	10th	The Air Member for Personnel (Air Vice Marshall R.H. NICHOLL, C.B.E. q.s., RAF.) visited R.A.A.F. Station, RICHMOND and inspected No.5 Squadron.	
SYDNEY	12th	R.A.A.F. Station, RICHMOND provided aircraft and personnel for a "fly past" as part of the Combined Coronation Review of Navy, Army and Air Force in the Centennial Park, SYDNEY, in which three Seagull V aircraft participated. Three Officers and thirty four airmen of the Unit also took part in the march past the Governor General at the Review.	
SYDNEY	13th	R.A.A.F. Station, RICHMOND provided a detachment for the Coronation March through SYDNEY in which five Officers and thirty four airmen of the Unit participated.	

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 JUNE, 1937.

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of (Unit or Formation) No.5 (Fleet Co-operation) Squadron.

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RICHMOND.	2	The annual gunnery and bombing practices for Naval observers and telegraphist air gunners was commenced. Five Naval officers and six telegraphist ratings attended the course.	
RICHMOND.	5	Seagull A2-4 and crew returned to RICHMOND having completed the reconnaissance and photographic work in co-operation with H.M.A.S. "MORESBY" and Civil Aviation officials in NORTH AUSTRALIA.	
RICHMOND	30	Five airmen of the Squadron were detailed as part of the Station detachment for the funeral of the late Gunner SULLIVAN, V.C. at SYDNEY.	

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[Signature]

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JULY, 1937.

of (Unit or Formation) No 5 (Fleet Co-operation) Squadron.

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RICHMOND	2nd	The Annual Air Firing and Bombing practices for Naval Observers and Telegraphist Air Gunners was completed.	
RICHMOND, HOBART TOWNSVILLE	5 - 31	Fisheries Survey Flights were resumed, Pilot Officer J.N. BELL, No. 1091 Cpl. BRADLEY, W., Fitter Aero and No.1724 ACI. THORLEY, A.F. W/T Op Mech., forming the crew of the aircraft A2-4. Reconnaissance flights were made over coastal waters from HOBART to TOWNSVILLE.	
SYDNEY	7th	The following personnel embarked in H.M.A Cruisers. H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" No.598 F/Sgt.SANDERSON, R. Fitter Aero, No.2309 ACI. SMITH, H.T., Fitter Armourer; H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" No.1890 ACI. LARGE, H.P., Flight Fitter, No.2295 ACI. BOTHWELL, J.K., Fitter Armourer; H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" No.1229 Cpl. BRINSLEY, G.S. Photographer, No.2283 ACI. LEE, A.W. Fitter Armourer.	
RICHMOND	9th	The Annual Inspection by the Commanding Officer, R.A.A.F. Station, RICHMOND (Group Cptain A.T.COLE, C.B.E., M.C., D.F.C.) was carried out.	
SYDNEY	12th - 16th.	High precision bombing was carried out on a target towed by one of H.M.A. Ships.	
SYDNEY	14th	The following personnel embarked in H.M.A. Cruisers: H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" No.646 L.A.C. CHERRY, E.G.L. Metal Rigger, No.1800 ACI. MC.LEAN, G.C., Flight Fitter. No.2659 ACI. CAMERON, A.J., Photographer; H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" No.474 Sgt. HAGGARTY, S.W. Metal Rigger, No.2424 ACI. MC.LEAY, L. Flight Rigger. H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" No. 1925 ACI.LEE, C.H., Fitter Aero, No.1612 ACI. FORSYTH, S.G. Metal Rigger. Seagull A2-5 and Flying Officer W.N. GIBSON embarked in H.M.A.S "AUSTRALIA".	
JERVIS BAY.	17th	Seagull A2-11, pilot-Flight Lieutenant C.W. FEARCE and Seagull A2-7, pilot - Pilot Officer A.N. HICK proceeded from RICHMOND to JERVIS BAY for embarkation in H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" and "SYDNEY" respectively.	

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RICHMOND - JERVIS BAY	22nd.	One Seagull aircraft from No 5 Squadron (shore-based) and two Seagull aircraft attached to H.M.A. Cruisers took part in a training exercise between H.M.A.S. Squadron and R.A.A.F., RICHMOND for the exercise of the Cruiser Squadron aircraft in the maintenance of sector patrols for the defence of a Fleet in harbour.	
RICHMOND - NOWRA PORT MORESBY	22nd. 29th. 31st	Seagull A2-13, pilot, Flight Lieutenant J. ALEXANDER proceeded to NOWRA for sleeve towed target exercises with H.M.A. Squadron. H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" detachment, less No. 1229 Cpl. BRINSLEY, G.S. Photographer disembarked and embarked in s.s. "MONTORO" with unserviceable Seagull A2-5 for return to R.A.A.F. Station, RICHMOND.	

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AUGUST, 1937

of (Unit or Formation) No 5 (Fleet Co-operation) Squadron.

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
NO. 1RA - (JERVIS BAY)	3 - 4	Seagull A2-13, pilot Flight Lieutenant J. ALEXANDER and crew No. 460 Cpl. COOK, W. Metal Rigger carried out sleeve target towing exercises with H.M.A. Squadron at JERVIS BAY.	
RICHMOND SYDNEY	8	The Fisheries Survey Flights were completed and aircraft and crew returned to RICHMOND. H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" Detachment disembarked from s.s. "MONITOR" and delivered unserviceable Seagull A2-5 to RICHMOND.	
SYDNEY	9 - 12	Seagull A2-14, pilot Flight Lieutenant J. ALEXANDER, No. 32. S.M.I. BARTLETT, W. and No. 1003 Cpl. RICHARDSON, W. were embarked in H.M.A.S. "ALBATROSS" for investigation of hangar stowage spaces for Seagull V aircraft.	
BRISBANE	13	H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" Detachment, Flying Officer W.N. GIBSON, No. 1925 ACI. LEE, C.H., Fitter Aero, No. 1612 ACI. FORSYTH, S.G., Metal Rigger, No. 2283 ACI. LEE, A.W., Fitter Armourer with Seagull A2-12 re-embarked in H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA".	
BRISBANE	22	Flying Officer J.N. BELL, No. 1003 Cpl. RICHARDSON, W., Metal Rigger, No. 2088, ACI. MCKINNON, J.H., Flight Rigger, No. 2374 ACI. MATTHEWS, S.R., Flight Fitter and No. 1900 ACI. LAUGHTON, E. Metal Rigger proceeded to BRISBANE for salvage of unserviceable Seagull A2-7 and delivery of Seagull A2-4 to H.M.A.S. "SYDNEY" in replacement.	
RICHMOND	23 - 30 31	Inspections of the Unit preliminary to the Annual Inspection, 1937 by the Chief of the Air Staff, Air Vice Marshall R. WILLIAMS, CB., CBE., DSO., were carried out by the Director of Signals, D.P.S., D.S.D. and D.O.I.	

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SEPTEMBER, 1937.

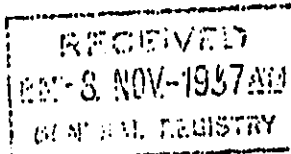
of (Unit or Formation) No.5 (Fleet Co-operation) Squadron.

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Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RICHMOND	1 - 3	Inspection of R.A.A.F., Station, RICHMOND, by the Chief of the Air Staff, Air Vice Marshall R.WILLIAMS, CB., CBE., DSO. No.5 Squadron was inspected on 3rd September, 1937.	
SYDNEY	2	Flying Officer J.N.BELL and detachment disembarked from M.V."DUNTROON" with unserviceable Seagull A2-7, and returned to RICHMOND.	
MELBOURNE	13 - 17	Squadron Leader C.B.WINCOTT attended conferences at R.A.A.F., Headquarters, MELBOURNE.	
RICHMOND	12 - 18	Flight Lieutenant J.ALEXANDER was appointed to Temporary Command of the Squadron during the absence of Squadron Leader C.B.WINCOTT.	
NARRABEEN	28	Seagull aircraft A2-13 was provided for towing of drogue target for Anti-aircraft	
CURL-CURL	29	Artillery, and Machine Gun practice shoots by the No.1 Anti-aircraft Battery.	
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OCTOBER, 1937.

of (Unit or Formation) No 5 (Fleet Co-operation) Squadron

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
NOWRA (JERVIS BAY)	6 - 8	Seagull A2-13, pilot Flight Lieutenant J. ALEXANDER and crew No. 460 Cpl. COOK, W. Metal Rigger carried out Sleeve Target towing exercises with H.M.A. Squadron at JERVIS BAY.	
SYDNEY	8	HMAS "SYDNEY" detachment complete with aircraft (Seagull A2-4) stores and personnel, Flying Officer A.N.HICK, No 474 A/Sgt. HAGGARTY, S.W. Metal Rigger, No.1890 ACI. LARGE, H.P. Fitter Aero, No.2295 ACI. BOTHWELL, J.K. Fitter Armourer, No.2424 ACI. MC LEAY, L. Metal Rigger, was disembarked to R.A.A.F. Station, RICHMOND.	
NOWRA - (JERVIS BAY)	11-14	Seagull A2-13, pilot Flight Lieutenant J. ALEXANDER and crew No 460 Cpl. COOK, W. Metal Rigger carried out Sleeve Target towing exercises with H.M.A. Squadron at JERVIS BAY.	
SYDNEY	15	HMAS "CANBERRA" Detachment, aircraft and personnel were disembarked to R.A.A.F. Station, RICHMOND.	
	18	HMAS "AUSTRALIA" Detachment, aircraft and personnel were disembarked to R.A.A.F. Station RICHMOND.	
RICHMOND	26	HMAS "CANBERRA" and "SYDNEY" Detachments, aircraft and personnel were re-embarked in their respective cruisers.	
RICHMOND	26	Flight Lieutenant J. ALEXANDER was appointed to temporary Command of the Squadron during the absence on leave of Squadron Leader C.B. WINCOTT, RAF.	

J. Alexander

A.L.

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

R.A.A.F. Form A.50.
(Feb., '33.)

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NOVEMBER, 1937.

of (Unit or Formation) No. 5 (F.C) Squadron

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Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
SYDNEY	5.	Seagull A2-14, pilot F/Lt. J. ALEXANDER and crew P/O E.B. COURTNEY, No. 1135, Sgt. KERR, A.C., Fitter Aero, No. 1731 ACI. BARNES, G.H. W/T Op Mech. to HMAS "ALBATROSS" for trial fitment of special handling chassis for stowing Seagulls in the hangar.	
SYDNEY	9.	Seagull A2-14, pilot F/Lt. J. ALEXANDER and crew, P/O EKINS, No. 1003 Cpl. RICHARDSON, W Metal Rigger, No. 2606 ACI. DUDDING, B.F., Flight Rigger to HMAS "ALBATROSS" for inspection of hangar accommodation, storage spaces etc and special handling chassis for stowage of Seagull aircraft.	
NOWRA	12.	Seagull A2-13 pilot F/Lt. J. ALEXANDER crew P/O E.B. COURTNEY, P/O T.A.G., . CROSS carried out Sleeve Target Towing Exercise with H.M.A. Squadron.	
RICHMOND	15.	Squadron Leader C.B.WINCOTT, RAF. took over command of No. 5 Squadron from F/Lt. J. ALEXANDER.	
NOWRA.	19.	Seagull A2-13, pilot F/Lt. J. ALEXANDER and crew P/O EKINS, TAG. CROSS, No. 1902 ACI. WISHART, C.G., Flight Fitter carried out Sleeve Target Towing exercises with HMA.Squadron.	
NOWRA.	23.	Seagull A2-13, pilot F/Lt. J. ALEXANDER and crew, P/O E.B. COURTNEY, TAG. CROSS, No. 1902 ACI. WISHART, C.G. Flight Fitter carried out Sleeve Target Exercises with HMA Squadron.	
NOWRA	24	ditto.	
JERVIS BAY.	25.	Three Seagull Aircraft, 12-15, A2-16 and A2-18, pilots F/O J.N. BELL, S/Ldr C.B.WINCOTT, RAF, F/Lt. J. ALEXANDER, Observers P/O EKINS, P/O COURTNEY, L/Cdr KENNEDY, crews No. 1724 ACI. THORLEY, A.F. W/T Op Mech; - No. 1915 ACI. WALDIE, W.G. Photographer, No. 2720 ACI. BROWN, B; - TAG CROSS, Sgt. TOMKINS, W/T Op Mech respectively. Observing and Photographing fall of Shot - Naval Exercise J.39.	
SYDNEY	29	HMAS "CANBERRA" detachment complete with aircraft A2-9, stores and personnel, Pilot F/Lt. PEARCE, Crew, No. 598 F/Sgt SANDERSON, R, Fitter Aero No.646 LAC. CHE RY, E.G.L. Metal Rigger, No.1800 ACI. McLEAN, G.C. Fitter Aero, No.2659 ACI. CAMERON, A.J. Photographer, No.2309 ACI. SMITH, H.T. Fitter Armourer was disembarked to RICHMOND 29.11.37.	

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DECEMBER, 1937.

of (Unit or Formation) No.5 (F.C.) Squadron

No. of Sheet 2157

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
RICHMOND	9	<p>His Excellency the Governor General visited R.A.A.F. Station, RICHMOND, and inspected No.5 (Fleet Co-operation) Squadron. Five Seagulls took part in the fly past.</p> <p>His Excellency and Aide-de-Camp were flown to FARM COVE by Squadron Leader C.B. WINCOTT, R.A.F., and Flight Lieutenant C.W.PEARCE.</p>	
RICHMOND	17	<p>No.5 (Fleet Co-operation) Squadron stood down for the Christmas Leave period.</p>	

[Handwritten signature]
..... 51 BR R.A.F.
Commanding Officer, No.5 Squadron, R.A.A.F.