

SECRET

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

of (Unit or Formation) No. 3 Squadron (H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA")

No. of Sheet 8

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
At sea	1.1.42	A2-16, Flying Officer WEBBER, catapulted for anti-submarine patrol.	
	2.1.42	Both aircraft operated, A2-22 F.O. MURCHISON, one flight and A2-16 Flying Officer WEBBER 2 flights, carried out continuous inner anti-submarine patrol.	
PORT MORSBY	3.1.42	A2-22 F.O. WEBBER catapulted to carry out anti-submarine patrol until convoy entered the harbour. The performance of Seagull A2-22 is very disappointing, and fuel consumption is very high, approximately 40 gallons per hour. If possible, it is my intention to change this aircraft at the first available opportunity.	
	4.1.42	H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" and H.M.T. "AQUITANIA" proceeded for SYDNEY.	
	7.1.42	A2-16 catapulted to carry out flight to ROSE BAY.	
SYDNEY	8.1.42	H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" arrived SYDNEY, aircraft was recovered. A2-22, F.O. WEBBER was flown to PERTH for further engine inspection, and returned to ship on 9.1.42	
	10.1.42	Proceeded for FREMANTLE with H.M.T. "AQUITANIA"	
FREMANTLE	15.1.42	Arrived FREMANTLE, A2-16, F.O. WEBBER, catapulted for anti-submarine patrol covering entry of H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" and convoy into harbour.	
	16.1.42	Left FREMANTLE with H.M.T. "AQUITANIA" for rendezvous	
Off SUEDA STRAITS	19.1.42	rendezvous with H.M.S. "DRAGON", "EMERALD", "HARRIER", and R.M.N. "LIWA" off SUEDA STRAIT and A2-16 F.O. MURCHISON, and F.O. WEBBER catapulted twice to carry out two inner anti-submarine patrols.	
LANNING BAY	20.1.42	Arrived LANNING BAY (SINGAPORE) and troops transferred from H.M.T. "AQUITANIA"	
	21.1.42	New convoy MS2A left LANNING BAY escorted by H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA", "EMERALD", and H.M.S. "LIWA" and joined later by H.M.N. "LIWA" and H.M.S. "HARRIER"	
	23.1.42	Patrol company with convoy MS2A later, A2-16 F.O. MURCHISON, catapulted to investigate a tug and 5 barges reported as Japanese. These were found to be Dutch, several photographs were taken, and ship carried on to BATAVIA.	
BATAVIA	24.1.42	Arrived at BATAVIA, an air raid warning sounded while berthing and the all clear sounded 20 minutes later.	
	25.1.42	Proceeded to FREMANTLE via SUEDA STRAIT.	
		O.Cs. Detachments Flying Officers, I.G. WEBBER and D.J. MURCHISON.	

D. B. O'Connell
Wing Commander
Commanding No. 9 Squadron R.A.A.F.

SECRET

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

Month Ending 28.2.42

R.A.A.F. Detachment
of (Unit or Formation) H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA"

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

No. of Sheet..... 9

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
At Sea	4.2.42	Aircraft catapulted to investigate submarine report by Flying Officer D.J. MURCHISON (818)	
"	5.2.42	Flying Officer MURCHISON in Aircraft A2-16 and Flying Officer WEBBER in Aircraft A2-22 were catapulted to carry out outer and inner Anti-Submarine patrol.	
"	6.2.42	Flying Officer MURCHISON and Flying Officer WEBBER catapulted and carried out two Anti-Submarine patrols in Aircraft A2-16. Convoy MS3 then handed over to H.M.S. "DRAGON" at rendezvous and H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" proceeded for FREMANTLE in company with M.V. "WARWICK CASTLE"; previously escorted by H.M.S. "DRAGON".	
FREMANTLE	10.2.42	Arrived FREMANTLE	
"	11.2.42	H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" proceeded for SYDNEY	
SYDNEY	17.2.42	Arrived SYDNEY	
"	20.2.42	Aircraft and Detachment disembarked to ROSE BAY to be shore based as duty aircraft, whilst H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" is refitting.	
"	21.2.42	21 days leave granted to Flying Officer MURCHISON, Corporals CROFT, GOLDSACK, GAGE, ECKFORD Lacs. POOLE, FARMIO, and ACl. CHAPMAN. Corporal McCORMACK proceeded on 21 days leave on return of above members of the Detachment.	
"		Flying Officer WEBBER flew aircraft A2-22 to RATHMINES.	
"	26.2.42	Flying Officer WEBBER transferred to H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA"	
		O.C. R.A.A.F. Detachment Flying Officer D.J. MURCHISON	
		<i>C. J. Murchison</i> Wing Commander, Commanding No. 9 Squadron, RATHMINES N.S.W.	

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OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK.

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

Months Ending 31.3.42
30.4.42

R.A.A.F. Detachment
of (Unit or Formation).... H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA"

No. of Sheet..... 10.....

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
ROSE BAY	17.3.42	Aircraft A2-16 flown to RATHMINES by Flying Officer MURCHISON, and returned to ROSE BAY	
" "	19.3.42	No. 15091 Cpl. GOLDSACK disembarked to RATHMINES and his relief No. 20243 LAC. EGGINTON embarked.	
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ROSE BAY	6.4.42	Navigation exercise was carried out in the vicinity of SYDNEY heads.	
" "	16.4.42	No. 9140 Cpl. ECKFORD and No. 15456 LAC. FARMILLO disembarked to RATHMINES.	
	29.4.42	Dive Bombing practice was carried out in the vicinity of SYDNEY Heads.	
O.C. R.A.A.F. Detachment: Flying Officer D.J. MURCHISON.			
<i>B. J. Santon</i> Wing Commander, Commanding No. 9 Squadron, RATHMINES N.S.W.			

OPERATIONS RECORD BOOK

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

of (Unit or Formation) No. 9 Sqd. (H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA".)

No. of Sheet 11

Place.	Date.	Summary of Events.	References to Appendices.
SYDNEY	7:5:42	Sea gull A2-16 flown to RATHMINES.	
	11:5:42	Walrus W.2768 assembled by QANTAS, ROSE BAY, flight tested by me and found correct.	
	15:5:42	W.2768 embarked in H.M.A.S. "CANBERRA" and later catapulted and flown to MASCOT for compass swinging. Returned to Ship.	
AT SEA	16:5:42	Ship proceeded to sea for trials and aircraft catapulted to carry out exercise for Ship's R.D.F. equipment. Aircraft recovered in harbour on return of Ship.	
SYDNEY	18:5:42	Proceeded to PORT PHILLIP to carry out further trials.	
PORT PHILLIP	20:5:42	Arrived PORT PHILLIP.	
	21:5:42	Aircraft catapulted to carry out practice bombing and for the first time the boom method of recovery was used and was satisfactory.	
	24:5:42	Aircraft catapulted twice, to photograph Torpedo Runs and then to carry out 8" Spotting.	
	26:5:42	Aircraft hoisted out and practice bombing and air to sea gunnery carried out. P.M. Ship proceeded alongside PRINCES PIER.	
MELBOURNE	27:5:42	Proceeded for SYDNEY.	
AT SEA	28:5:42	Aircraft catapulted for 8" Spotting and carried on to ROSE BAY.	
SYDNEY	29:5:42	Ship arrived at SYDNEY and Aircraft recovered.	
<u>PROMOTIONS.</u>		A.C.I. EGGINTON V.R. Fitter Arm. reclassified to L.A.C. from 1:5:42.	
<u>EMBARKATIONS AND DISEMBARKATIONS.</u>			
		L.A.C. EGGINTON V.R. disembarked to 120 S.G.H. on 2:5:42 and re-embarked 14:5:42.	
		CPL. GAGE C.N. Fitter IIA. disembarked to Naval Wing, Randwick Hospital 29:5:42.	
		L.A.C. RIVERS F.G. relief for above, embarked 29:5:42.	
		C.C. Detachment HMAS CANBERRA <i>[Signature]</i> F/O	
		<i>[Signature]</i> Commanding No. 9 Squadron R.A.A.F.	