



NAVY TODAY





The Royal Australian Navy has a vital role. It is to ensure, in co-operation with our allies and the other armed services, the security of Australia, its territories and lines of communication. The RAN has developed and is continuing to develop along lines which make it capable of reacting immediately to any threat in Australia's area of strategic interest.

The watchful eye of the Royal Australian Navy is an important part of Australia's defence. Below — Ships of the Australian Fleet such as HMAS VAMPIRE are ever-ready. Right — SEATO exercises, an important part of training and allied co-operation. Opposite page — Australia's flagship, the aircraft carrier HMAS MELBOURNE with some of her anti-submarine "hunter-killer" Wessex helicopters.

A WATCHFUL NAVY

The Navy today is growing — in size and in strength. Today's missile age calls for up-to-date ships, arms and equipment and men with the technological and other skills necessary to operate and maintain them.

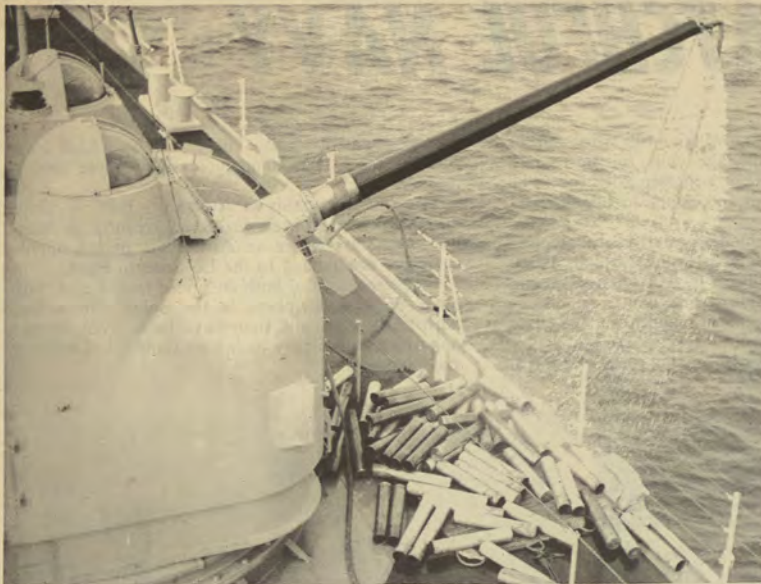
Some of the most modern and best equipped warships in the world are in the Australian Fleet. Recent and future additions include guided missile destroyers and patrol submarines which are recognised to be among the most modern and effective available. Also on the way are more escorts, a new support ship, new planes for the Fleet Air Arm

and new patrol boats. These will be added to a Fleet which is becoming increasingly more mobile and versatile.

Proof of the quality of Australia's Navy — ships and men — has been furnished recently in Vietnamese waters where an Australian guided missile destroyer is attached to the US Seventh Fleet.

In exercises, too, both in home waters and with other SEATO members in the South China Sea, Australian ships and men have been given further opportunity to display their high standard of training and readiness.





Cooling the barrel of one of HMAS HOBART's five-inch guns to release a shell jammed in the breech following action against Communist shore installations in Vietnam. Top right — A man is landed on HOBART from a US helicopter. Right — A HOBART sailor spots Communist guns as shells land astern of the Australian guided missile destroyer.



HOBART IN VIETNAM

HMAS HOBART spent six months with the US Seventh Fleet before she was relieved by her sister-ship HMAS PERTH.

HOBART was highly praised by the Americans for her performance in Vietnamese waters.

A Navy clearance diving team and RAN helicopter crews also contributed to the allied effort against the Viet Cong.



Above — HMAS HOBART with US ships of the Seventh Fleet.
Below — HMAS PERTH, which has replaced HOBART in the Fleet.
Top right — HOBART was commended for her accuracy with her guns.
Below right — The transport HMAS SYDNEY takes Australian troops and equipment to Vietnam.



Men and the sea

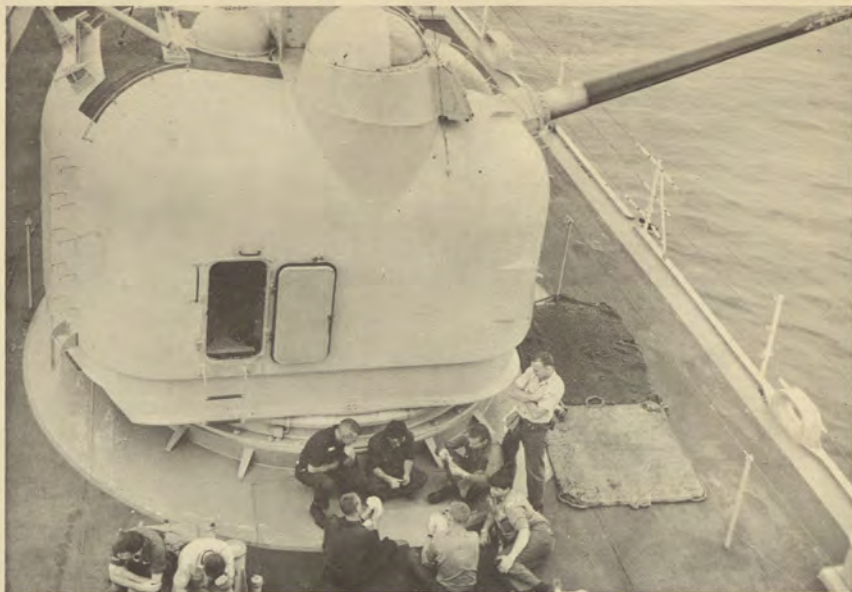
The sea with its many moods has always been a challenge and a joy to the sailor.

Left — A smooth day during a SEATO exercise contrasts with heavier going off the Australian coast (below left). Below — Late afternoon sun highlights a minesweeper.



DECK HANDS — Right — Men in HMAS HOBART relax in the shadow of one of her automatic five-inch guns with a hand of cards after firing on Communist shore installations in Vietnam. Below right — A cup of tea and a cigarette provide a welcome break at sea.

Type 12 escort ship HMAS DERWENT puts on a turn of speed in a choppy sea.





Go further with Navy

Few careers present more opportunities for travel than the Navy. Royal Australian Navy ships visited 157 ports in Australia and abroad in 1966-67, including Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong, Thailand, the Philippines, South Vietnam, New Zealand, Japan, the Fiji Islands, Formosa and Hawaii.

In addition, HMAS ANZAC represented Australia at the coronation of King Taufa'ahau in Tonga. The ship's company were guests at the kava feast at the celebrations, provided a palace guard and contributed a spectacular fireworks display to the festivities.





Left — Sailors on leave admire a torii, the entrance to a Shinto shrine, Miyajima, Japan.

Right — Contrasts in Japanese dress.

Below right — Sailors enjoying sukiyaki in Japan.

Below — A look at the border to Red China, outside of Hong Kong.



Missiles At Sea

Anti-submarine warfare is an important aspect of Royal Australian Navy training and preparedness.

Fleet ships are equipped with Sonar and various anti-submarine weapons and the aircraft carrier HMAS MELBOURNE is a mobile base for anti-submarine helicopters and fixed wing aircraft.

One of the most effective anti-submarine weapons in the world is the Australian-designed Ikara missile which is fitted to a number of Australian escorts. The rocket-propelled Ikara is guided by the ship to the vicinity of the target then a homing torpedo is dropped to seek out and destroy the quarry.





Sea-To-Air "Birds"

Tartar, a medium-range surface-to-air missile, is fitted to HMAS PERTH and HMAS HOBART, for anti-aircraft defence. The Australian-designed Jindivik pilotless aircraft is used by the RAN to provide a flying target for practice firings with Tartar.

Right — An alarmed seagull wheels away from a "bird" — a Tartar missile leaving PERTH during a practice firing.

Top — A radio-controlled Jindivik leaves the ground on its way to play the part of an intruder. "Kills" are recorded by the ship if the Tartar missile comes within a prescribed distance of the Jindivik target.





From the bridge of a destroyer to the air conditioned quiet of an electronic data processing centre or the flight deck of a carrier there are many and varied opportunities in the Royal Australian Navy.

Opposite page—
HMAS STUART leads HMA Ships
DERWENT and QUEENBOROUGH.





INFORMATION ON NAVAL CAREERS

Information on Naval careers may be obtained from recruiting officers in all capital cities or from the Director of Naval Recruiting, Navy Office, Canberra, ACT, 2600.

Further general information on the Navy may be obtained from the Director of Navy Public Relations, Navy Office, Canberra, ACT, 2600.

