PRINCESS ROYAL FORTRESS NAVAL WEAPON COLLECTION

HMAS PERTH II (D38)

HMAS *Perth* II was commissioned by the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) in Boston, Massachusetts, USA on 17 July 1965 and was the first *Perth*-Class Guided Frigate Destroyer (modified from the USN *Charles F. Adams*-Class). HMAS *Perth* II then spent eight months in American waters conducting trials and exercises.

On 12 February 1966 she sailed for Australia arriving at Perth on the 4 March where she was granted Freedom of Entry.

During the periods of September 1967 to April 1968, September 1968 to April 1969 and September 1970 to April 1971, HMAS *Perth* II served as a unit of the US Seventh Fleet operating off the coast of Vietnam. The ship was awarded the United States Navy *Unit Commendation* after her first deployment, and the United States Navy *Meritorious Unit Commendation* after her second.

In all she steamed over 149,000 miles on active service in the Vietnam War, fired 30,711 five-inch rounds and came under fire on five occasions. HMAS *Perth* II also served two stints in the North West Indian Ocean patrolling the Arabian Sea during the Iran-Iraq war in 1981 and 1982 with the USS *Ranger* and *John F. Kennedy* Battle Groups.

HMAS *Perth* II had a tremendous career that spanned 34 years in periods of conflict and of peace. Over 7000 officers and sailors served during her period of service. She steamed over one million miles during her career and has won numerous fleet Awards for excellence.

She was decommissioned on Friday 15 October 1999 and gifted to the Western Australian government. On 24 November 2001 she was scuttled as a dive site in Albany, Western Australia.

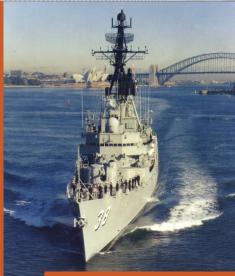
TARTAR SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE (SAM)

The *Tartar* was a medium-range naval Surface-to-Air Missile (SAM) fitted to HMAS *Perth* II. It used the Mk-13 Guided Missile Launching System (GMLS) which was a single-arm missile launcher designed for use on frigates and other military vessels.

IKARA ANTI-SUBMARINE MISSILE

The *Ikara* anti-submarine weapon system was developed in Australia in the 1960's that used advanced computer technology and an external data line to deliver a Mark 44 or 46 homing torpedo. The system was fitted on HMAS *Perth* II in Australia in 1966 and removed in 1991.

Ikara is the aboriginal word for throwing stick.



ΔС

HMAS Perth II in Sydney Harbour



Tartar SM-1 Surface-to-air Missile



PRINCESS ROYAL FORTRESS NAVAL WEAPON COLLECTION

HMAS SWAN III (DE50) & HMAS TORRENS (DE53)

HMAS Swan III was laid down on 18 August 1965, and was the last River-Class Destroyer Escort (DE) to be constructed in the Naval Dockyard in Williamstown, Victoria. The ship was named after the Swan River in Perth, Western Australia and was the third RAN ship to carry that name.

HMAS Swan III and her sister ship, HMAS Torrens II, were the final two River-Class DE's constructed for the RAN. The first four ships, HMAS Parramatta III, HMAS Yarra, HMAS Stuart and HMAS Derwent, were modified versions of the Royal Navy's Type 12 Whitby and Rothesay-Class frigates both of which displayed very good sea keeping qualities. HMAS Swan III and HMAS Torrens II were a derivation of the Royal Navy's Leander-Class general purpose frigate, which was itself a development of the Type '12'.

HMAS Swan III, especially in her initial role as a front line fleet Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) unit, had a very busy and varied RAN career, which emphasized her versatility. She soon earned the nickname of the 'Fluffy Duck', or the 'Duck', a name she retained throughout her career.

During her 26 years of service the HMAS Swan III was under the command of 22 different captains, she steamed 775,870 miles and spent over 56,982 hours at sea.

On 14 December 1997 HMAS Swan III was scuttled as a dive site in Geographe Bay, Western Australia.

HMAS Torrens II was the last of the River-class destroyer escort of the RAN that entered service in 1971 and was active until her decommissioning in 1998.

The ship was sunk as a target by Collins-Class submarine HMAS Farncomb (SSG74) in June 1999, hit by a single Mark 48 ADCAP (Advanced Capability) torpedo fired 12 miles away. It sunk off the Western Australian coast beyond Rottnest Island.

TORPEDOS

The Mark VIII Torpedo (blue and grey) was one of the standard torpedoes used in the Royal Australian Submarine Services from 1967 until 1982.

The Mark XVI Torpedo (black and gold) was made by the United States Navy around 1942 and may well have been used for instructional purposes.

A Torpedo Tube Loader is a cylinder shaped device for launching torpedoes. There are two main types of torpedo tube: underwater tubes fitted to submarines and some surface ships, and deck-mounted units (also referred to as torpedo launchers) installed aboard surface vessels.

This one came from Sydney Harbour and was delivered to the Princess Royal Fortress in 2006.



ONAL ΔС

HMAS Swan III Twin Mount Gun





Mark 44 Torpedo deployed by the Ikara Anti-Submarine Missile





The Mark 27 Target Torpedo



Torpedo Tube Loader

PRINCESS ROYAL FORTRESS NAVAL WEAPON COLLECTION

BOFORS GUNS

Bofors guns are amongst the most famous of all anti-aircraft guns and were made from a company based in the small town of Bofors in central Sweden. Manufacturing began in 1883 with the 40mm anti aircraft gun being first developed in 1929. It was exceedingly versatile, could be adapted to many different environments and was able to be mounted on land or on ships.

Each 40mm gun at the Princess Royal Fortress are ex RAN and have strong connections with some of Australia's best known fighting ships.

N1 BOFORS GUN is a modified Army pedestal mounting, that was used by the RAN. This gun was removed from Albany's TS *Vancouver* to the Princess Royal Fortress in December 2003.

MARK V TWIN BOFORS GUN was manufactured in 1943 and was first installed on the aircraft carrier HMAS *Sydney* III that was commissioned in 1948.

The HMAS *Sydney* III fought in the Korean War (1950-53) and this gun was part of the 26,000 rounds of shells fired on the Korean Peninsula. It was removed in 1958 and was next installed on the ill-fated aircraft carrier, HMAS *Melbourne* II from 1965 to 1971.

HMAS *Melbourne* II was involved in Australia's greatest peacetime disaster when she collided with HMAS *Voyager* with the loss of 82 lives in 1964. Then again in 1969 she was involved in another collision off the Vietnamese coast with the USS *Frank E Evans* which sank losing 74 lives.

The gun was then transferred to HMAS *Supply*, a fleet oiler between 1977 and 1979, then to HMAS *Stalwart*, a destroyer tender in 1985. The gun was decommissioned in February 1987 and moved to the Princess Royal Fortress in 1993.

MARK IX BOFORS GUN was first installed on the survey ship HMAS *Moresby* from 1969 to 1972. It was then transferred to the Daring-Class destroyer HMAS *Vampire*, which later became a training ship in 1980.

This gun itself was one of six which remained on the HMAS *Vampire* from 1976 to 1987. It was moved to the Princess Royal Fortress in 1993.

The HMAS *Vampire* is currently the most visible of all RAN ships as she is now at anchor and open for inspection at the Australian National Maritime Museum at Darling Harbour in Sydney.

AN4 BOFORS GUN was the final type of Bofors used on RAN ships. This gun was on the Fremantle-Class and moved to the Princess Royal Fortress in 2010.

Sources: Royal Australian Navy; <u>www.navy.gov.au</u> Seaforces; <u>www.seaforces.org</u>



ZΔC



Mark V Twin Bofors Guns



Mark IX N1-3 Bofors Gun





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