



Bernie's banishment to Melville Bay as Skipper on 02.4 turned out to be a most pleasurable posting. With awnings flying on a speeding Air Sea Rescue Boat was a complete contrast to the years of active duty in the Marine Section. (B.Bashford)



Melville Bay was a very important Flying Boat Base and being Skipper on an A.S.R. Boat was a goal of every Coxswain in the Marine Section. (B.Bashford)



The whole range of Marine Section Boats needed on a Catalina Base were also there, as well as Landing Barges and Dumb Barges, for all the supplies arriving by cargo ships had to be brought ashore. There was also a large airfield located inland that had to be supplied. (B.Bashford)



When the war ended the Catalina Crews of Melville Bay were kept busy ferrying Prisoners of War back to Australia. Bernie other Coxswains of the M.S. would bring these POW men ashore for a brief period before continuing their flight. (B. Bashford)

