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HMAS PATRICIA CAM
Dear Sir,

"Patricia Cam".

I desire to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 21st March, 1944 and to inform you that a cheque for £14:7:7 in settlement of your account will be despatched to you in a few days.

Yours faithfully,

(A. K. Nankervis),
Secretary.

A. C. Barber, Esq.,
Naval Architect,
Royal Exchange Insurance Buildings,
77 Pitt Street,
SYDNEY. N.S.W.
Mr. A. C. Barber,
Royal Exchange Assurance Bldgs.,
77 Pitt Street,
SYDNEY. N.S.W.

44/ 65 - - Miscellaneous War Expenditure 14 7 7 Navy Office,

March, 1944

42 Nov.

To costs in supplying plans and data relevant
to "Patricia Cam" to C.O. Platypus.

One and half days locating, checking and
preparing for printing:

Cost of blue prints
Packing and postage

Office Charges

7 17 6
1 2 7
2 6

9 2 7

5 5 -

Naval Board
Corres. 401/201/3806.

Ships Regr.

20 Mar 1944
To costs in supplying plans and data relevant to "Patricia Cam" to C.O. Platypus.

One and half days locating, checking and preparing for printing:

Cost of blue prints
Packaging and postage

Office Charges

---FOURTEEN---
---SEVEN---
---SEVEN---

Navy Office,
March 1944

Mr. A. C. Barber,
Royal Exchange Assurance Bldgs.,
77 Pitt Street,
SYDNEY. N.S.W.

---SEVEN---
14 7 7

---SEVEN---
14 7 7

Naval Board
Corres. 401/201/3806.

Ships Regr.
Dear Sir,

"Patricia Cam",

Reply No. 9085
Your letter No. 401/201/5806

With reference to the above matter I am prepared to accept the amount of £14-7-7 in settlement of the above matter.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy,
Navy Office,
Melbourne. S.C.L.
17 FEB. 1944

Dear Sir,

"PATRICIA CAM"

I desire to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 12th January, 1944, and to inform you that the Department cannot agree to accept your claim for £49.7s. for the information supplied in regard to "Patricia Cam".

The Department is, however, agreeable to pay you the sum of £14.7s.7d. for your trouble in this matter.

I shall be glad if you will advise your acceptance of this amount when a cheque in settlement will be forwarded to you.

Yours faithfully,

(A. R. Nankervis.)
Secretary.

A.C. Barber, Esq.,
Naval Architect,
Royal Exchange Assurance Bldgs.,
77 Pitt Street,
SYDNEY, N.S.W.
Recommending payment of £14. 7. 7d., which sum should more than compensate Mr. Barber for his trouble. In the event of Mr. Barber refusing to accept, it is recommended that the transaction be referred to the Crown Law Authorities for a ruling.

23rd January, 1944.

Director of Engineering (Naval)
28th January 1943

A.R. Nankervis,
Secretary to the Dept. of the Navy,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE. S. C. L.

Dear Sir,

Patricia Cam.

In acknowledging receipt, your reference No. 127183 in envelope containing thirteen plans only.

In regard to the above matter, it is respectfully submitted for your reconsideration the following facts relating to the supply of plans and data to the Commanding Officer "Platypus".

On Friday the 30th October 1942 a letter by air mail was received asking for all available information (on the assumption that this was urgently needed), the plans and data were dispatched on Monday 2nd November, 1942.

It being not specifically stated that the plans were required for loading purposes, the whole of the available data was released, no doubt you will appreciate that the releasing of this data covering the construction of a highly efficient shallow draft vessel, constructed throughout from local hardwoods is of infinite value to those interested, and the possession of this data which has taken years of research to obtain is part of the Architect's skill and knowledge.

The amount of £49-7-0 charged for this work is made up as follows:

- One and one half days locating checking and preparing for printing 7 17 6
- Cost of blue prints 1 2 7
- Packing & postage 2 6

£14 7 7

Office Charges

12/1
Value of vessel say £14000
A minimum remuneration of one
quarter of one per centum
of value of vessel covered by
the plans and data supplied

35 0 0

£49 7 7

In reviewing the above statement of account you
will no doubt appreciate that the writer is the only
Naval Architect available to the Public as a consultant
and does not receive any Salary whatsoever from any
Governmental department.

You will also appreciate that it is not necessary
to copy data of this kind by those interested.

I too appreciate that if the plans were intended
as a guidance to the loading of the vessel they are now
of no further use to your Commanding Officer.

In these circumstances I shall be pleased to
receive a cheque covering the amount of £49-7-7

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

[Date: 25.2.44]
Dear Sir,

"PATRICIA CAM".

I refer to letter dated 23rd October, 1942, addressed to you by Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Platypus", in which he stated that he was seeking all available information regarding "Patricia Cam" and as a result of which you were good enough to forward a number of plans and detailed sketches covering construction of the vessel and specifications for the installation of machinery. The plans and specifications, etc., are now returned herewith.

The object of the Commanding Officer "Platypus" was to ascertain particulars of construction for loading, etc., and not for building purposes.

It is perhaps needless to assure you that no copies were made of the plans or particulars furnished.

In these circumstances, I shall be glad if you will submit a claim for services based on actual cost of printing and typing necessitated in this regard.

Yours faithfully,

(A.R. NANKERVIS)
Secretary.

A.C. Barber, Esq.,
Naval Architect,
Royal Exchange Assurance Bldgs.,
77 Pitt Street,
SYDNEY, N.S.W.
Mr. Barber appears to have forwarded complete drawings of the vessel and his charge would be reasonable, if the Department required them to build a vessel to his design. As this was not so but to find out her construction for loading etc., it is suggested that as "PATRICIA CAM" is now lost, that the drawings be returned to Mr. Barber with a declaration that they have not been copied and a request submitted at the same time asking for a substantial reduction in his charge.

16th December, 1945.
Royal Australian Navy.

H.M.A.S. "PLATYPUS".
7 December, 1943.

The Secretary,
Naval Board.

ACCOUNT £49.7.0 FOR PLANS OF H.M.A.S.
"PATRICIA CAMP".

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board with reference to my letter No. PP. 202/9/3947 of 7 October, 1943, the attached copies of further letters relating to plans and specifications of H.M.A.S.
"Patricia Camp", for which A.C. Barber, Naval Architect, has rendered an account for £49.7.0.

A/Commander, R.A.N.

[Signature]

[Date: 25-2-44]
The Naval Officer in Charge,
CAIRNS
QUEENSLAND.

Dear Sir,

H.M.A.S. "PATRICIA CAM:"

I have been instructed by the Civil Secretary, Garden Island, to forward the attached accounts together with the correspondence relating to same.

Trusting that this matter will receive your early consideration.

Yours faithfully,

Sgd. A.C. Barber.
2nd NOVEMBER, 1942.

The Acting Commander, 
Commanding Officer, 
H.M.A.S. Platypus, 
C/ G.P.O. SYDNEY.

Your Reference PP.202/9/1731.

Dear Sir,

Under separate cover I have dispatched to the above address a number of plans and detail sketches covering the construction of H.M.A.S. Patricia Cam, also specification for the installation of machinery.

I have also the original plans of propellers, tail shafts, stern tubes, and table of offsets for the worked frames. Should you require these I will have copies made.

There was not any written specification for the construction of the vessel, the owners supplied material and labour. The special circumstances arising in the course of her construction was viz.:– The vessel should be capable of carrying about 200 tons of coal for the owners mine at Lake Macquarie through the channel and bridge opening at Swansea on a draft of 6' 6" and delivering same into hoppers at the owner's depot Pyrmont, to facilitate the quick discharge of the coal by automatic grabs. One large hatchway was considered the most suitable.

Yours faithfully,

sgd. A.J. Barber.
H.M.A.S. "PLATYPUS"
C/- G.P.O.

23rd October, 1947

Mr. A.C. Barber,
Naval Architect
17 Bridge St.
Sydney, N.S.W.

Dear Sir,

I am seeking all available information regarding H.M.A.S. "Patricia Cam" lately running under that name for Cam & Sons Pty. Ltd. In answer to my inquiry, that firm has given your name as that of the Naval Architect who designed the vessel.

Engineer Lieutenant T. Wilson, now of H.M.A.S. "CASTLEMBAINE" and late of Red Funnel Trawlers Pty. Ltd., has informed me that there may have been special circumstances arising in the course of her construction and with which you might be able to acquaint me.

Yours faithfully,

Signed (Jack Donovan)
Acting Commander.
Commanding Officer.
Commonwealth of Australia
Department of The Navy.

Royal Australian Navy.

From Naval Officer-in-Charge, DARWIN.


To The Secretary, Naval Board.

Subject PLANS OF H.M.A.S."PATRICIA CAM".

With reference to Navy Office Letter 401/201/3306 (112321) dated the 10th November, 1943, be pleased to inform the Naval Board that the plans of H.M.A.S."PATRICIA CAM" have been forwarded under separate rolled cover.

A.R. Halsey
COMMODORE.
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

PLANS OF H.M.A.S. "PATRICIA CAM"

SUBJECT: PLANS OF H.M.A.S. "PATRICIA CAM"

The plans supplied by Mr. Barber would be prints taken from existing tracings.

About £5 would cover the actual cost of prints and typed matter. Another £5 for Mr. Barber's time and the remaining £39 7/- for knowing how to design the vessel.

Since no estimate was asked for or offered, I submit that this account be paid.

27.10.45. S. N. C. (Ship).
10 NOV. 1943

112321

The Naval Officer-in-Charge,
DARWIN. N.T.

PLANS OF H.M.A.S. "PATRICIA CAM".

I am directed by the Naval Board to request that the Plans of H.M.A.S. "PATRICIA CAM" transferred to H.M.A.S. "MELVILLE" from H.M.A.S. "PLATYPUS" on approximately 3rd December, 1942, be sent to Navy Office.

(Sgd.) H.C. ALLEN

For Secretary.
10 NOV 1943

Director of Engineering (Naval).
Submitted for the consideration of the Naval Board, the attached account from A.C. Barber, Naval Architect of Sydney, for the sum of £47-9-0 for the preparation of plans and specifications of H.M.A.S. "Patricia Cam".

2. It is now apparent that when inquiring of A.C. Barber, as to whether he had plans and for specification of "Patricia Cam" available, the then Commanding Officer, of H.M.A.S. "Platypus" had no intention of incurring expense to the Crown. However it appears that A.C. Barber treated "Platypus" inquiry as a definite order and went ahead and produced detailed plans and specifications.

3. Copies of correspondence referring to this transaction are attached, but no trace can be found of the original communication to A.C. Barber.
The attached account for £49-7-0 for supplying set of blue prints, etc. of "Patricia Cam" has been received in H.M.A.S. "Platypus".

2. From the file attached - which is incomplete, it would appear Acting Commander J. Donovan, R.A.N., then in Command of H.M.A.S. "Platypus" may have knowledge of the circumstances leading to their supply. As it is possible that it may not have been intended to incur cost to obtain these plans, no Finance Authority to cover cost of purchase would exist.

3. It is requested that Lieutenant Commander Donovan may report any circumstances that he may recollect connected with the supply of these plans.

(Sgd) G.L. Cant.
A/Commander, R.A.N.

The Commanding Officer,
H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

Submitted:
I do not think that my letter to Mr. Barber, of which I have not a copy, could reasonably be interpreted as a Service Order to supply a set of plans at a price of 47 guineas. There was no financial authority obtained as it was never intended to incur any expense.

The contingent circumstances, which may be of interest was as follows. "PATRICIA CAM" was at that time a tender to "PLATYPUS" operated by N.O.I.C. Darwin. I was in considerable doubt as to whether she was sufficiently strongly constructed for anything other than local duties particularly in the "wet" or bad weather season. She had been built for Cam and Sons Pty. Ltd., Trawler Owners of Sydney and had been transferred from their ownership to H.M.A. Navy. I heard from the Engineer Officer of "CASTLEMAIN" (I forget his name) who had joined the Navy from the employ of Red Funnel Trawlers, that when "PATRICIA CAM" was under construction, Mr. Cam insisted on incorporating some of his own ideas so extraordinary that the Naval Architect, Mr. Barber withdrew from supervision of her construction. Engineer Officer "CASTLEMAIN" expressed the opinion that if I wrote to Mr. Barber he would probably inform me as to these circumstances of her construction and agree that I mention his name in my letter to Mr. Barber. Mr. Barber in his reply made no mention of this incident but informed me of the duty for which she was designed and also included a set of plans which were ultimately landed to N.O.I.C. Darwin on transfer of "PATRICIA CAM" to "MELVILLE".

(Sgd) J. Donovan.

Lieutenant Commander.
COPY.

II

P. 275/7
The Commanding Officer,
H.M.A.S. "PLATYPUS".

Forwarded for information with reference to your
PP. 202/9/3614 of 21 at August, 1943.

(Sgd) RUPERT GARGIA.

BALLYCRAN NAVAL DEPOT.
16th September, 1943.

a/CAPTAIN.
In accordance with your instructions the following notes are forwarded in connection with the account rendered, dated 22nd June, by Mr. A.C. Barber.

At the time supply of these prints was made, "Patricia Cam" was a tender to H.M.A.S. "Platypus" on the Darwin Station. On approximately the 3rd December, 1942, the accounts of "Patricia Cam" were transferred to "Malville" and all correspondence files dealing with this ship were also handed over. This explains why there is no record in "Platypus" prior to the 5th February, 1943.

In the first instance, Commander J. Donovan then Commanding Officer of "Platypus" wrote to Mr. Barber, asking for details of "Patricia Cam's" construction and intimated that any plans and specifications that were available would be of use to Department of the Navy, as this ship had been commissioned into H.M.A. Service.

I believe that Commander Donovan, like myself, was under the impression that these plans were being supplied free of cost. As far as can be remembered, N.O.I.C., Darwin, was unaware of the step taken to secure "Patricia Cam's" history and no authority for any expenditure was sought.

At the same time similar requests were made to other firms in Western Australia and South Australia to supply details of construction of H.M.A.S. "Southern Cross" and H.M.A.S. "Yampi" "Lass". In these cases, however, the firms approached, were unable to supply plans but did supply specifications and the history of the craft without charge.

(Sgd) J.F. STEWART.

Pay Sub-Lieutenant, R.A.H.R.
COPY.

A. C. BARBER, NAVAL ARCHITECT,
ROYAL EXCHANGE ASSURANCE BUILDINGS,
77 PITT STREET, SYDNEY.

22nd June, 1943.

Accounts Department,
H.M.A.S. Platypus,
c/- G.P.O.,
Sydney.

Your reference P.P./9/1731

In Account with A. C. BARBER.

To supplying one complete set of blue prints and typed specification, covering the construction and completion of H.M.A.S. PATRICIA CAM.

1. Longitudinal and Midship Section (construction details)
2. Outboard profile
3. Mast derrick and rigging plan
4. Accommodation plan
5. Lines and Bogey plan
6. Machinery and Pipe arrangement
7. Schedule list of pipes and fittings
8. Motor winch and windlass
9. Fuel tanks
10. Details of mast and derrick Ironwork
11. Metacentre and displacement curves
12. Rigging bands
13. Upper rigging and hounds bands
14. Typed specification, engine and ship pipe installation.

Forty seven guineas, £49-7-0.
H.M.A.S. "PLATYPUS".
c/- G.P.O.
5th February, 1943.

Mr. A.C. Barber.

Dear Sir,

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 28th January, 1943.

2. I thank you for the plans which were received and turned over to the Naval Officer in Charge, Darwin who is now more interested in them than I. Further plans are not yet required.

3. I very much regret this receipt was not acknowledged before.

(JACK DONOVAN)
A/COMMANDER. R.A.N.
28 January, 1943.

The Acting Commander;
Commanding Officer
H.M.A.S. "PLATYPUS".
C/- G.P.O.
SYDNEY.

Your reference PP.202/9/1731.

Dear Sir,

On the 2nd November, 1942, in reply to your letter I forwarded to you a full set of plans covering the construction of H.M.A.S. "Patricia Cam" also a covering letter setting out the circumstances arising in the course of her construction.

Will you please let me know if you received these plans.

Yours faithfully,

Sgd. A.C. Barber.