

WT 18/5/422

1 December 1966

Sir,

1. I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's New Zealand Ship WAIKATO during the period 1-30 November, 1966.
2. Testing and Tuning and Sea Trials have been progressed during the month in a generally satisfactory manner. The after effects of late supply of pieces of electrical equipment coupled with recently discovered design and wiring faults is becoming a serious threat to the satisfactory completion of Sea Acceptance Trials in time to meet the Operational Date. Strenuous last minute efforts are now being made by authorities to prevent any further delays.
3. Sea Acceptance Trials commenced on 14 November and continued until 25 November on a day-running basis from Portsmouth. The following is a summary of results achieved: -

Radar	(
Radar Displays	(Accepted except for Type 993. A repeat S.A.T. (993) is
S.I.F.	(programmed for Thursday 8 December.
U.H.F./V.H.F.		Accepted
M.R.S. 3 Mod 3.		Accepted except for Blind Surface aspect. A modification to Box 11 is expected to be ready shortly when further trials will be done.
G.W.S. 22.		Failed. A repeat S.A.T (G.W.S. 22) is programmed for Friday 9 December.
4. Further Sea Acceptance Trials including repeat trials where necessary are programmed for the period 8-22 December. Also in this period are included:

19 December	Commander in Chief Inspection. (Normally taken to be the Operational Date.)
20 December	Final Reading of Form D. 448.
5. HMNZS SANTON arrived at Portsmouth on Saturday 5 November. Destoring, in preparation for paying-off was somewhat assisted by WAIKATO's Senior Rates who carried off all moveable non-accountable objects which were of any conceivable use to WAIKATO.
6. The Commander in Chief, Portsmouth, Admiral Sir Frank Hopkins, K.C.B., D.S.O., D.S.C., paid a return call on Captain Mercer on Wednesday 2 November and met the officers informally in the Wardroom. Captain Mercer called on Admiral Superintendent Portsmouth, Rear Admiral R.C. Paige, on Thursday 8 November. This call is expected to be returned on Monday 5 December.
7. During Sea Trials on Thursday 17 November, Captain S.F. Mercer was placed on the Sick List and Lieutenant Commander T.A. Riddell assumed temporary command. Sea Trials continued as programmed without disruption.
8. The health and morale of the ship's company continues to be good. Morale was given an additional boost when the first 4.5" A.A. shot scored a bulls eye and shot down the Rushton

Target. It is believed that this is the first time that a Rushton Target has been shot down at sea. Unfortunately, by the time the ship reached the splashdown area, the target which had disintegrated had largely disappeared and only one radar reflector ball was recovered.

9. The behavior of the ship's company has been generally good with some exceptions.

10. A separate report of sporting activities is at Appendix A and the miles steamed is at Appendix B.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(T.A. Riddell.)
Lieutenant Commander R.N.Z.N.,
IN COMMAND.

The Commodore,
Auckland

Copy to:
The Deputy Secretary of Defence (Navy)
Navy Office
WELLINGTON

SUMMARY OF SPORTING EVENTS DURING NOVEMBER, 1966 AT PORTSMOUTH

- 1.11.1966 Soccer versus HMS CAMBRIAN Lost 0 – 4 Hilcea
- Cross Country at HMS DRYAD L.Ck. Nilsen and A.B. Ramsay ran for HMS
 EXCELLENT. Team came 4th.
- Squash Club Night at United Service Courts.
- 2.11.1966 Water Polo versus HMS FIFE at Pitt Street Drew 6 all.
- 3.11.1966 Whaler pulling versus BRITTANIA and FIFE – WAIKATO third.
- 5.11.1966 Rugby versus Portsmouth Rugby Football Club 1st XV drew 8 all.
- “ “ “ “ “ “ 2nd XV Won 28. nil.
- 8.11.1966 Basketball versus Royal Naval Barracks P.T. Staff lost 42 – 28.
- Squash Club Night United Service Courts.
- Hockey versus HMS ULSTER 7 Aside no score.
- 10.11.1966 Basketball versus HMS FIFE lost 23 – 33 – Royal Naval Barracks
- Water Polo versus HMS FIFE lost 6 8
- 12.11.1966 Rugby versus Isle of Wight at Ryde 1st XV won 23. 0
- 15.11.1966 Squash Club Night United Service Courts.
- 17.11.1966 R.N. Judo Champs. Team of 13 entered. Unable to compete.
- 23.11.1966 Challenge Cup. Uckers T.A.S. Versus Gunnery TAS won.
- 26.11.1966 Rugby versus Worthing at Worthing. Lost 3 6.
- Rugby versus Royal Marines at Eastney. Won 12. 3.
- 27.11.1966 Squash Club Night at United Service Courts.
- 29.11.1966 Basketball versus HMS HERMES Lost 18 32
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Appendix "B" to WAIKATO's WT 18/5/422 dated 1st December, 1966

NOVEMBER ,1966.

Miles steamed	563.
hours underway	72.
