

Basic Detail Report



00037697

Title

HMS REPULSE anchored in Athol Bight

Date

1924

Primary Maker

Frederick Garner Wilkinson

Medium

Emulsion on glass

Dimensions

Overall: 82 x 103 mm, 2 mm, 0.04 kg

Name

Glass plate negative

History

During 1923-1924 HMS HOOD was flagship of the Special Service Squadron and led the Empire Cruise, a world tour that stopped at many countries who fought for and held allegiance with Britain in World War I. The tour started on 27 November 1923 and lasted until 28 September 1924. It was largely a public relations exercise to express Britain's world sea power, particularly relevant in the aftermath of World War I. During 1923-1924 the British battlecruiser HMS REPULSE took part in the world cruise of the Special Service Squadron, a tour that stopped at many countries which had fought in World War I and held allegiance with Britain. Starting on 27 November 1923 and finishing on 28 September 1924 the tour was largely a public relations exercise to express Britain's sea power, particularly pertinent in the aftermath of World War I. HMS REPULSE was a Renown class battle cruiser built by John Brown & Co at Clydebank, Scotland. Launched in 1916 it joined the 1st Battlecruiser Squadron as flagship and fought at the 2nd Battle of Heligoland Bight in November 1917. The following month REPULSE was damaged in a collision with HMAS AUSTRALIA. In the interwar period REPULSE took part in the Special Service Squadron's world tour in 1923-1924 and underwent a number of major refits (1918-20, 1924-25, 1933-36). World War II saw REPULSE undertaking ship convoys, escort duties, covering minelayer operations, evacuating British troops and searching out German ships. In August 1941 REPULSE was transferred to Cape Town, then India and finally Singapore. With the bombing of Pearl Harbor, the Pacific war began and REPULSE joined other ships of the Eastern Fleet in an effort to act as a deterrent to Japanese invasion convoys. On 10 December 1941 the British fleet was attacked by 86 Japanese high level bombers. REPULSE suffered up to 5 direct torpedo strikes and quickly sank.