

# Basic Detail Report

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**ANMS1492[006]**

**Title**

CREMER

**Date**

24 April 1942

**Primary Maker**

Royal Australian Air Force

**Medium**

Black and white photographic print on paper

**Dimensions**

Overall: 135 x 213 mm,

**Name**

Photograph

**History**

During World War II, coastal patrol and maritime reconnaissance was a major role of the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF), including aviation units attached to the Royal Australian Navy (RAN). These tasks included search and rescue, convoy shadowing, vessel identification and – when warranted – action against enemy submarines, warships and commerce raiders. Therefore the ability to identify vessels from the air was a critical skill for aircrew, in order to protect Allied vessels, prevent friendly fire incidents and correctly target hostile or suspect vessels. These photographs form part of a series of official identification images, some taken pre-war but the majority shot during 1941–42. They were largely managed by 6 Squadron RAAF, which was primarily based on east coast of Australia, operating maritime patrol aircraft. They were also apparently shared with the RAN for vessel identification purposes. The images include Australian and Allied warships and commercial vessels, as well as those of neutral countries, including a Japanese vessel (SS Hasimi Maru) photographed prior to the outbreak of the Pacific War.