



ANMS1445[069]

Title

Souvenir of Crossing the Line ceremony on board HMAS AUSTRALIA, flying the standard of HRH The Duke of Gloucester, 26th February 1935

Date

1935

Medium

Ink in paper

Dimensions

Overall: 208 × 135 mm

Name

Booklet

History

The booklet was owned by William Cook, who served aboard HMAS Australia (II) as a Midshipman and was present during the voyage that embarked the Duke of

Gloucester. Cook had a distinguished naval career, and served aboard notable Australian warships during the Second World War, including HMAS Perth (I), HMAS Voyager (I) and HMAS Nizam. He was mentioned in despatches for his service aboard Voyager during the Greek campaign in 1941. Awarded command of Nizam at the age of 28, Cook became the youngest Australian to command a destroyer during the conflict. He was later present at Tokyo Bay (while in command of Nizam) during the signing of the Japanese Instrument of Surrender on 2 September 1945. He later served as First Lieutenant of HMAS Wyatt Earp, the first Australian vessel to conduct Antarctic research in the immediate post-war period.