

MARITIME SQUADRONS ASSOCIATION



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Newsletter

January 2020

President's Message

Dear Members,

A Happy New Year to you all. I trust you had a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas and New Year and, more importantly, that you haven't been impacted by the horrendous bushfires.

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held last October in conjunction with the Brisbane dinner—as usual, this was a most enjoyable night. The AGM was held before the dinner and included the election of the Executive Committee and State Representatives and, what a surprise, the nominations exactly matched the available positions!

Results of the election were:

President	Keith Brent
Vice President	Barry Collins
Secretary	Maurice Richie
Treasurer	Geoff Hyde

ACT Rep	Keith Brent
QLD Rep	Barry Collins
NT Rep	Jim O'Doherty
TAS Rep	Peter Miller
WA Rep	Geoff Ward

NSW Rep	Rod Smallwood
NQld Rep	Holger Hildebrandt
SA Rep	Noel Shelton
VIC Rep	Graham Wade

I would like to take this opportunity to recognise the efforts and work of the MSA Executive Committee and State Representatives during 2019.

Vale Departed Members. During the last year we noted with much sadness the passing of the following friends and members:

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| • Peter Davidson (Pilot, 11SQN / 201SQN RAF) | November 2018 |
| • Jim Lambley (Pilot, 10SQN / 11SQN / 292SQN) | November 2018 |
| • Ray Keys (InstFitt, 10SQN) | November 2018 |
| • Jack Ingate (Pilot, 11SQN / 551SQN RAF) | January 2019 |
| • (Mick Starr (EQUIPO, 10SQN) (ex-member) | September 2019 |
| • (Shirley Gunton) | October 2019 |

New Patron of MSA. As you would be aware, Air Marshal Leo Davies retired as Chief of Air Force in July last year and Air Marshal Mel Hupfeld was appointed as the new Chief. I wrote to Air Marshal Hupfeld inviting him to continue the tradition of the incumbent CAF accepting the role of Patron of MSA. Unfortunately, his Staff Officer subsequently advised that CAF was unable to continue as our Patron and that he had suggested that the Air Commander Australia may be a suitable alternative. While we were disappointed at this turn of events, I am pleased to advise that the Air Commander, Air Vice-Marshal Joe Iervasi, has agreed to accept the role of Patron of the Maritime Squadrons Association.

Eligibility of 10 Squadron Members to Join MSA in the Future.

(see comment in AGM minutes below)

Guidelines for State Representatives Organising MSA Functions.

(see comment in AGM minutes below)

Cancellation of 2020 Canberra Dinner. Regrettably, I have had to cancel this year's MSA Canberra Dinner because of lack of numbers. Normally by early January indicative numbers are in the mid-20s. However, as of 10 January, only a handful of positive responses had been received for the dinner. The total likely attendance at that time was only 10, which is a long way short of the number required. Several members had also replied to say that they could not make it this year for various reasons, and this included a significant number of regular attendees — about 10 or 12 people who I can normally count on as 'automatic starters'. Given this situation, and the disappointing number of positive responses received, I assessed that it was highly unlikely that I would have had more than about 15–20 attendees total.

2020 Canberra Lunch. In lieu of the dinner, I will now be organising an informal pub lunch at a local hotel in Canberra on Sunday 22 March 2020. It will be similar to the Adelaide lunches on a 'pay as you go' basis, where the hotel reserves some tables for us in an area and people order and pay for their own meals and drinks from the hotel menu. Further details have been sent out by separate email and are also contained later in this newsletter.

Dates for your diary—I urge all members to support these functions:

- Sunday 22 March 2020 – Canberra Lunch at The Dock, Kingston Foreshore
- Sunday TBC May 2020 – Adelaide Lunch
- Saturday 25 July 2020 – NSW Dinner
- Saturday 24 October 2020 – Brisbane Dinner at United Service Club

Regards,

Keith Brent President

Member News

New Members

Two new members have joined the Association since the last newsletter.
Please welcome;

Peter Robinson
Corrie Metz

2020 Subscriptions

*Subscriptions for ordinary members were due in **January 2020**. If you have not paid at this time can you, please do so through the Treasurer.*

Email – if you are receiving this newsletter via Australia Post & you have an email address, then you can choose to receive newsletters and other updates via email (and save the Association some money). Just let the Secretary know your email address. In addition, if you change your address or email please inform the Secretary.

2020 ACT MARITIME SQUADRONS ASSOCIATION LUNCH **SUNDAY 22 MARCH 2020**

An informal MSA lunch for members and partners will be held on **Sunday 22 March 2020** at **The Dock** on Kingston Foreshore (www.thedockkingston.com.au). Their menu offers a fairly wide selection of food — sharing platters, pizzas, burgers and mains. The lunch will be run on a 'pay as you go' basis, where the hotel reserves some tables for us in an area and people order and pay for their own meals and drinks from the hotel menu.

It is a mixed function so please bring your spouse along. If you know other former maritime members who would be interested, then please assure them of a warm welcome and a good afternoon. Please let me know if you are attending, so I can confirm the numbers with The Dock and reserve the tables required.

Details of the lunch are as follows:

Date: **Sunday 22 March 2020**

Time: From 1200 until ??

Venue: The Dock on Kingston Foreshore
7/81 Giles Street
KINGSTON ACT 2604
Ph: (02) 6239 6333
Website: www.thedockkingston.com.au

Menu: Pub-style food — sharing platters, pizzas, burgers and mains. The menu is available on their website.

Dress: Pub casual

Cost: No payment required. Pay as you go on the day — people order and pay for their own meals and drinks from the hotel menu.

RSVP: **Please advise by no later than Tuesday 10 March 2020** if you will be attending (including names of any guests) so I can confirm the numbers with The Dock and reserve the tables required.

If you have any queries re the lunch, please contact me:

Tel: (02) 6253 2982
Mob: 0402 356 253
Email: kbrent@optusnet.com.au

For those of you who are not yet members of the Maritime Squadrons Association, I would urge you to join. Details of the Association and a Membership Application Form are available from the website at www.msa.asn.au.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE MARITIME SQUADRONS ASSOCIATION

**HELD AT THE UNITED SERVICE CLUB,
BRISBANE
ON 26th October 2019**

The President, Keith Brent, declared the meeting open at 1815 hours.

Present: 26 members as per attached attendance sheet.

Apologies: Apologies have been received from 19 members as per attached page.

Previous Minutes.

The minutes from the last AGM had been distributed to all members previously. Moved Val Bukmanis and seconded by Graeme Mowbray that the Minutes be accepted.

Carried

Business Arising from the Previous Minutes.

No business arising from previous minutes.

President's Report

See report attached below

Treasurer's Report

See report attached below.

Moved Rick Paff and seconded Stephen Knudsen that the Financial Report be accepted.

Carried

Election of Committee

In accordance with the Constitution all committee positions were declared vacant, and Ian Pearson took over as Moderator for the purpose of electing a new committee.

The following nominations had been received:

President	Keith Brent		
Vice President	Barry Collins		
Treasurer	Geoff Hyde		
Secretary	Maurice Richie		
ACT Rep	Keith Brent	NSW Rep	Rod Smallwood
QLD Rep	Barry Collins	Nth Qld Rep	Holger Hildebrandt
NT Rep	Jim O'Doherty	SA Rep	Noel Shelton
TAS Rep	Peter Miller	VIC Rep	Graham Wade
WA Rep	Geoff Ward		

As no other nominations had been received, these members were duly elected unopposed.

Vale Departed Members

The Vice President read out the names of those members who had passed away during the past year. The Ode was recited, and a minute's silence observed:

Peter Davidson	November 2018
Jim Lambley	November 2018
Ray Keys	November 2018
Jack Ingate	January 2019

(Mick Starr)
(Shirley Gunton)

September 2019 ex member
October 2019

General Business

New Commander Surveillance and Response Group (CDR SRG)

The President advised that the new Commander Surveillance and Response Group (CDR SRG) is Air Commodore Barbara Courtney, AM; she assumed command from Air Commodore Craig Heap on 08 May 2019.

Eligibility of 10 Squadron Members to Join MSA in the Future

The President noted that, in alignment with its new role as an intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) specialist squadron, command of 10 Squadron has officially transferred from No 92 Wing to No 42 Wing.

Therefore, strictly speaking, 10SQN is no longer a 'maritime' squadron. We now need to consider the eligibility of future 10SQN personnel to join MSA. Our Constitution states that eligibility extends to 'All personnel who have served in a maritime wing or squadron ...' and 'All personnel who have served in a RAAF squadron associated with a maritime squadron or served in a RAAF unit associated with maritime duties'. Are we happy that 10SQN continues to meet these criteria or do we bring in a cut-off date, whereby only those people who were members of 10SQN before 2 May 2019 are eligible to join? We are not asking you to make a decision immediately. We are merely flagging this situation and we will probably conduct an on-line poll of all members next year.

Guidelines for State Representatives Organising MSA Functions

The President advised that, in response to a few queries from some State Reps and other members re MSA policy on who pays for what, we are developing some guidelines for those who may be organising MSA functions. They are based on previous policy and custom and are intended to ensure an equitable distribution of MSA funds to our members.

Essentially, all costs associated with any particular MSA function must be covered primarily by those attending. While the MSA provides a subsidy for each financial member (and one guest/partner) attending, it would be inappropriate (and inequitable) to make any further contribution from MSA funds. Our organisation (and our funding base) is too small to provide subsidies for anyone other than financial members and we need to be very careful controlling our outgoing funds to preserve our future financial position

The cost charged per head for an MSA function needs to cover venue hire (if applicable), food and drinks, and any costs associated with a guest speaker (including audio visual support, if required).

If a guest speaker is not an MSA member, their meal costs (and those of their partner, if also invited) must be met from within the payments made by those attending, as part of the overall cost of the dinner. This probably means cutting back on the money available for drinks and/or adding an extra few dollars per head on the price paid by members attending to cover such costs. If the speaker is an MSA member, they are expected to pay for their own attendance (and for their partner) as for any other attendee. We cannot support the payment of a member's dinner simply because he gives a talk.

Once the State Representative has calculated the overall cost per head (to cover food, drinks, and guest speaker and venue hire, if applicable), the amount to be paid by the individuals attending can then be determined. This cost is further broken down to a member and a non-member rate; the difference reflecting the amount of the MSA subsidy.

- **MSA Member Rate.** The MSA member rate applies to financial members and one partner/guest attending a function. If a member invites more than one guest to a function, the additional guests will be charged at the non-member rate.
- **Non-Member Rate.** The non-member rate applies to all those attending a function who are not members of MSA. This includes additional guests, former members of MSA who are unfinancial and any other persons, such as tour guides.

2020 Canberra Dinner

The date for annual 2020 MSA ACT Dinner next year has still to be finalised. However, at this stage it looks like it will be held on either Saturday 7 or 14 March 2020, at Rydges Capital Hill.

Next AGM Venue & Date

Barry Collins advised that the date for the next Brisbane Dinner would be 24 Oct 2020. The President declared the meeting closed at 1845 hours.

M RITCHIE
Secretary

K BRENT
President

Annexes:

- A. Attendance List
- B. Apologies List
- C. President's Report
- D. Treasurer's Report & Financial Statement
- E. NSW Representative Report

Annexe A.

Attendance List

Brent, Keith
Collins, Barry
Foran, John
Hyde, Geoff
Johnstone, Gordon
Knudsen, Stephen
Metz, Corrie
Morris, Jim
Paff, Rick
Price, Colin
Robinson, Peter
Smith, Al
Wade, Graham
Ware, Phil

Bukmanis, Val
Collins, Leigh
Hamwood, Jo
Holland, Bob
Kenavan, Mike
McBrien, David
Morgan, Tony
Mowbray, Graeme
Pearson, Ian
Ritchie, Maurice
Smallwood, Rodney
Sutherland, Barry
Ware, Peter
Williams, Nev

Annexe B.

Apologies

Aitken, Trevor
Dutton, Graham
Gallagher, Vern
Gunton, Gerry
Hodge, Peter
Johnston, Wayne
Morris, Mick
Presgrave, Phil
Sampson, Gary
Willcocks, Mark

Best, Chris
Fisher, Les
Gillett, John
Harvey, Graham
Johnston, Mick
Jones, Tony
O'Doherty, Jim
Roche, Jim
Saunders, John

Annex C.

President's Report – 2019 AGM

New Patron of MSA

As you would be aware, Air Marshal Leo Davies retired as Chief of Air Force in July this year and Air Marshal Mel Hupfeld was appointed as the new Chief. I wrote to Air Marshal Hupfeld inviting him to continue the tradition of the incumbent CAF accepting the role of Patron of MSA. Unfortunately, his Staff Officer recently advised that CAF was unable to continue as our Patron and that he had suggested that the Air Commander Australia may be a suitable alternative. While we are disappointed at this turn of events, I am pleased to advise that the Air Commander, Air Vice-Marshal Joe Iervasi, has agreed to accept the role of Patron of the Maritime Squadrons Association.

Social Functions

Social functions held in past 12 months, since the last Brisbane dinner, have included:

- **Canberra Dinner.** The annual Canberra dinner was held on Saturday 16 March 2019 at Rydges Capital Hill. The 35 members and partners who attended had a most enjoyable evening.
- **Adelaide Luncheon.** Noel Shelton organised another successful MSA luncheon in Adelaide on Sunday 5 May 2019 at the British Hotel, in North Adelaide. I understand a number of current serving members of 11 Squadron also attended the function. I would like to thank Noel for organising this event.
- **NSW Dinner.** The annual NSW dinner was again held at the Historical Aircraft Restoration Society (HARS) facility at Albion Park on Saturday 27 July 2019. I would like to thank Rod Smallwood for all his efforts and hard work in organising this function, which also included a tour of HARS before the dinner. Some 36 members and partners attended, and they were joined by several HARS staff. The former Commander Surveillance and Response Group (SRG), Air Commodore Craig Heap, and the President of HARS, Bob De La Hunty, both spoke at the dinner.

MSA Membership

Currently, we have 216 members in MSA, which is about the same as last year's figure of 218. If you know of any current serving or former members who would be eligible to join MSA, please encourage them to do so.

Financial Situation

I will leave it to our Treasurer, Geoff Hyde, to advise you of the full details, but suffice to say he has again done a great job in managing the Association's finances.

Thanks to Committee and State Representatives

I would like to recognise the efforts and work of the MSA National Executive Committee and State Representatives over the past 12 months. In particular, I would like to thank Barry Collins for his efforts as Vice President and Queensland Representative, and Maurice Ritchie and Geoff Hyde for their support and hard work as Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Rod Smallwood (NSW Rep) and Noel Shelton (SA Rep) also deserve recognition for their valuable support in organising their respective State functions.

Cheers

Keith Brent

President, October 2019

Annex D.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT
MARITIME SQUADRONS ASSOCIATION**

Financial Year 1 July18 – 30June19

Opening Balance 1 July 18	4491.98
INCOME	

Membership Fees	450	
Brisbane Dinner	3697	
Ties Badges	105	
Refund (see note)	188.75	
Interest	0.43	4441.18

Secretary Account	300	
Adelaide Lunch	330	
Canberra Dinner	330	
NSW Dinner	101.50	
Brisbane Dinner	3730 (subsidy 470)	
President (cards)	13	
		4804.50

Closing Balance	<u>4028.66</u>
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NAB Account	4028.66
Deposit at USC	300.00
Secretary cash at hand	207.29
Treasurer cash at hand	65.10
Ties Badges Cuff links	2268.00

Note. Refund was due to change over of secretary duties.

Total function subsidy	1231.50
Secretary Expenses	92.71
Treasurer Expenses	25.20

Deposit at start of term	18042.80
Interest credited during financial year	231.94
Deposit at end of financial year	18274.74

The term deposit matures 27 OCT 2019 when approximately 233.42 will be credited to the account. The account will be re-invested including this interest.

MSA is in a sound financial position. The combination of membership fees and sale of merchandise is helping offset the costs of the organisation. The working account is slowly reducing, but is coming off a high level, as a result of a draw down made in the previous financial year. The majority of the costs are the subsidy of our functions through the year.

The intention is to allow this to fall further to maximise the earnings in the interest bearing account, it will then be topped up to the required level.

Very low interest rates are affecting our ability to provide extra subsidy to our members. During the period of this report 2.54% was achieved for less than 12 month periods. The new rate is expected to be 1.45%.

Geoffrey Hyde
Treasurer MSA

Annex E.

NSW Branch report for 2019 for the AGM

MSA NSW has, for the second year in a row, held the yearly dinner at HARS in Albion Park (near Wollongong). This year there were over 40 attendees, including members of HARS and 36 MSA members and friends. Tours were also conducted for a small fee by the HARS staff, exclusive to MSA members and guests. The highlights included a close-up of a couple of newly acquired aircraft and a simultaneous night engine run of P2V7 273 and AP3C 753. It was a spectacular and nostalgic sight and sound for many members. The excellent dinner was catered by Sherryl Sherson and her band of volunteers and was very much appreciated by all.

Air Commodore Craig Heap gave a presentation on the changes to maritime in the ADF and what it will mean to Numbers 10 and 11 SQN, 10 SQN in particular. Bob De La Hunty provided a look at the near and mid-term future of HARS, including establishing a Korean War era display area and construction of a new hangar.

Next year the event will be held on Saturday the 25th of July, commencing at 4.00 pm. This coming year will also hopefully include a tour of a new addition to the HARS inventory, John Travolta's Boeing 707.

Prior to the New Year, MSA NSW would like to try and reconnect with those who have been missing in action. If you know of any former maritime personnel who live in NSW or would like to come to our functions, please don't hesitate to forward them my contact details.

Finally, my thanks to Pete Jabornicky, whose efforts in the initial push to use HARS as a venue, have paid off in the marked increase in numbers and also in people who have reconnected with MSA as a result.

Thank You, Rodney Smallwood MSA NSW Representative

Information please.

P2V5 information wanted.



Do any members have any information about the bracket attached near the cockpit of P2V5 (serial number unknown) shown in this image?

News from here and there

P-8A part of strait commitment



DEFENCE will commence support to the international maritime security construct in the Strait of Hormuz before the end of 2019.

The announcement, made jointly by Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Defence Minister Linda Reynolds on August 21, committed a "modest, meaningful and time-limited" contribution to the mission.

It will include a P-8A Poseidon (pictured) for one month before the end of the year, HMAS *Toowoomba* for six months from January 2020 and attachments to the Bahrain-based headquarters. The deployment will enhance Defence's commitment to counter-piracy and counter-terrorism under Operation Manitou.

Boeing has received awards worth \$34.5 million to deliver a sixth mission crew workstation retrofit to previously delivered US Navy and Royal Australian Air Force P-8 Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft.

A total of 60 aircraft will be modified under the contracted work, expanding the crew size from five active operators to six, which will increase the mission capability.

More operators will result in more functions being able to be performed, and more functions means more data collected and therefore increased mission effectiveness, Fred Bruner, P-8 programme manager at Boeing, said.

The retrofit will additionally bring existing operational aircraft up to the same crew configuration as recent production aircraft, including the four aircraft due to be delivered to the Royal New Zealand Air Force, which already include a sixth workstation.

RAAF Base Townsville Works

Runway extension. The proposed runway extension will increase the take-off distance to 2844 metres (9331ft) allowing the P-8A Poseidon to take off at maximum-all-up-weight at ambient temperature up to 34°C.

Redevelopment of existing Maritime Ordnance Loading Aprons 13 and 14. Minor pavement extension works is proposed at the Maritime Ordnance Loading Aprons to accommodate movement of ground support equipment around the aircraft.

Aircraft rinse facility. An aircraft wash facility is proposed to be constructed to provide regular rinsing of the aircraft to reduce the build-up of airborne contaminants arising from low flying operations.

RAAF-funded project testing SAR capability for P-8A Poseidon

A Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF)-funded project is testing an extended search and rescue capability for the P-8A Poseidon.

The study is being conducted off the coast of the Naval Air Station Patuxent River (PAX) in Maryland and is evaluating the UNIPAC III Search and Rescue (SAR) kit on the P-8A maritime patrol aircraft.

The US Navy's Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) revealed that the kit will enable the P-8A to provide survivor assistance to 100 people in a single sortie.

Naval Technology

Argentina P-3s

The U.S. State Department has approved Argentina's proposed purchase of four ex-U.S. Navy P-3C patrol planes. The \$78-million P-3C deal, which the State Department approved in late December 2019, includes the four airframes plus spare engines and all the electronics and support systems. The used P-3Cs would replace six older P-3Bs in Argentine naval aviation. None of the P-3Bs are operational, the State Department noted.

RAAF P-8A completes Middle East mission

The Royal Australian Air Force P-8A Poseidon aircraft that deployed to the Middle East in October has completed its mission successfully, the Australian Department of Defence announced on 25 November. The aircraft took part in International Maritime Security Construct (IMSC) missions to ensure the safe passage of naval and merchant vessels through the region and boost maritime security.

[The Shephard News Team](#)

RAAF joins surveillance effort against North Korea

Australia is sending a maritime patrol aircraft to Japan to join an international effort to enforce United Nations Security Council imposed sanctions against North Korea. The deployment of the P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft is the fifth to occur since April 2018.

[The New Daily](#)

Poseidon's soar at Talisman Sabre

The P-8A Poseidon played a starring role in Exercise Talisman Sabre, operating out of RAAF Base Williamtown for the duration of the Exercise. More than 140 personnel from both Australia and the United States made up the P-8A Detachment. Four aircraft – two from each nation were based out of the Australian Mobile Tactical Operations Centre (MTOC).

For three weeks 11 Squadron and VP-5 (The Mad Foxes) flew a variety of sorties and were put through different scenarios including anti-submarine warfare (ASW) missions.

Officer Commanding 92WG, Group Captain John Grime flew on one of the ASW missions and said conducting ASW in support of a Carrier Strike Group is a challenging and complex role that is only fully exercised during large exercises like Talisman Sabre. [Mirage News](#)

Royal Air Force Poseidon



[Boeing](#)

The Royal Air Force expects to declare initial operational capability with its new Poseidon MRA1 fleet during 2020, with its lead example to arrive in the UK "in early-spring".

“All nine aircraft will be delivered by November 2021, with full operational capability [to be] achieved in 2024,” the service says. The type will be home based at RAF Lossiemouth in Scotland, although runway resurfacing work at the facility will require flights to be performed from nearby Kinloss during 2020.

Once operational, the P-8A fleet will be supported by 18 frontline crews assigned to two units: 120 Sqn, which was re-formed in April 2018, and 201 Sqn.

The service has lacked dedicated maritime patrol aircraft since the retirement of its BAE Systems Nimrod MR2s in 2010.

[Flight Global](#)

RAAF receives final P-8A Poseidon maritime surveillance aircraft



A RAAF P-8A Poseidon supports sea trials for the NUSHIP Hobart in the Gulf St Vincent off the coast of Adelaide. Image via [Commonwealth of Australia, Department of Defence](#).

Australia's newest maritime surveillance aircraft, the P-8A Poseidon, has arrived at its new home, RAAF Base Edinburgh on 12 December 2019, completing the fleet for No. 11 Squadron.

The RAAF has committed to acquiring 15 P-8A Poseidon aircraft. Up to now, 12 P-8A Maritime Patrol Aircraft have been approved for acquisition, and three are subject to normal Government Defence acquisition approval processes.



The crew involved in flying the 12th and final P-8A Poseidon to Australia.
Image via Commonwealth of Australia, Department of Defence.

As a direct commercial sale, India has received eight of the P-8I variant to date with four more in production. The U.S. Navy is on contract to receive 111 with the potential for additional quantities based on the fleet's needs. As a cooperative partner with the Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Program Office, Australia began receiving their P-8A aircraft in 2016.

The United Kingdom is one of six international customers for the P-8A Poseidon and the first has been delivered; Norway will begin receiving their five P-8As in 2022; both New Zealand and South Korea have signed agreements with the U.S. Navy to purchase four and six aircraft respectively.

[Naval News](#)

Bush Fire support

RAAF A47-005 P-8A Poseidon "BLACKCAT 50" was involved in the search for the missing C-130 Large Air Tanker in the Snowy Mountains region of NSW, Australia.

History Corner

No 10 Squadron was officially incorporated into No.15 Group, RAF Coastal Command on 3 January 1940 and declared operational from 1 February 1940.

10 Jan 68 - RAAF accepted first P-3B Orion



Undated image of A9-292 over Penang

The prototype Lockheed Orion maritime patrol aircraft, designated YP3V-1, serial 148276, flew on 25 November 1959. New Zealand became the first export customer with an order for the upgraded P-3B version. In November 1964 the RAAF selected the Orion to replace the Neptunes of No 11 Squadron at RAAF Base Richmond. These ten aircraft -- A9-291 to A9-300 -- were P-3B-95-LO and -100-LO variants. The first aircraft, A9-291, was accepted by the RAAF on this day and arrived at RAAF Edinburgh on 13 May 1968.

Seventeen years later the last RAAF P-3B took off from Edinburgh on 24 Jan 1986 for Lockheed's Burbank factory. The P-3Bs were traded for new P-3C aircraft. The first retired aircraft became the prototype of the proposed AEW Orion.

