

**SEA POWER CENTRE
AUSTRALIA**

**DATABASE OF ROYAL AUSTRALIAN
NAVY OPERATIONS, 1990-2005**

Working Paper No. 18

Edited by the
Sea Power Centre - Australia

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The Sea Power Centre - Australia (SPC - A) was established to undertake activities which would promote the study, discussion and awareness of maritime issues and strategy within the RAN and the Defence and civil communities at large. The aims of the SPC-A are:

- to promote understanding of Sea Power and its application to the security of Australia's national interests;
- to manage the development of RAN doctrine and facilitate its incorporation into ADF joint doctrine;
- to contribute to regional engagement; and
- within the higher Defence organisation, contribute to the development of maritime strategic concepts and strategic and operational level doctrine, and facilitate informed force structure decisions.

The Sea Power Centre - Australia is also home to the Naval History Section, responsible for the preservation and promotion of the RAN's rich maritime history.

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Introduction

For someone with naval connections one of the more frequent questions asked by members of the public is, ‘what does the Navy do?’ While the maintenance of its capability to fight and win at sea must remain its number one priority, the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) is not simply a wartime service. Rather, it is an organisation dedicated to serving Australia in the broadest sense of the term. Over its more than 100 year existence the Navy’s men and women have fulfilled this obligation by preserving and protecting Australian interests all over the world and in a wide variety of ways. The tasks undertaken by the RAN fall into a variety of categories across what the Australian Defence Force (ADF) today refers to as the *Spectrum of Operations*¹, represented at Figure 1. This database aims to illustrate the scope of this commitment, and offer some basis for comparative analysis, by providing annual details of those maritime operations conducted by Australian units between January 1990 and March 2005.

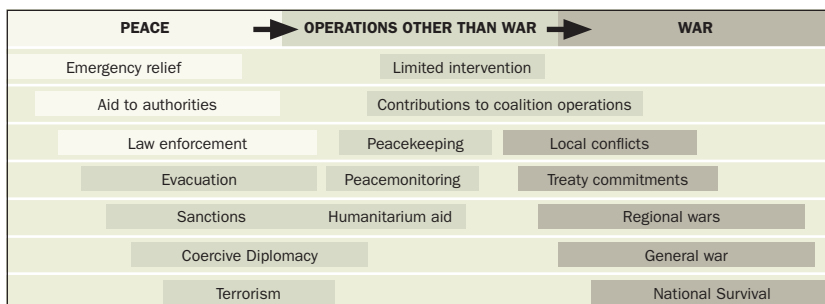


Figure 1: The Spectrum of ADF Operations.

This database is not intended as a comprehensive history of the Australian Navy since 1990, but it does seek to provide a better context to individual events that might elsewhere be given an unconnected chronological listing. To this end, an attempt has been made to include all major maritime operations as well as those lesser-known activities which had a definite operational purpose. Thus, although the presence of Australian units in foreign ports invariably has a diplomatic dimension, only those connected to a specific national event or celebration are generally included here. In addition, a summary at the beginning of each year endeavours to provide an indication of those ongoing naval tasks that would not otherwise rate a separate mention.

1 Department of Defence, *Force 2020*, Defence Publishing Service, June 2002, p. 9.

There is no 'official' list of ADF tasks and operations, so the information in this database has been gathered from a variety of sources. These include archival files, newspaper and journal accounts, post-operational reports, the Reports of Proceedings provided monthly by individual ships, and the annual report to Government produced by the Australian Defence Organisation. Although every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, these sources are of variable quality, and, at times, inconsistent. As such, this database should not be regarded as either comprehensive or definitive. It is instead better considered as a tool to assist in understanding the breadth of RAN operations, and as an aid to further research into those operations. As resources permit, the database will be expanded to include all Australian maritime operations since 1901, and a searchable version will be made available on the Internet.

Where appropriate, readers are invited to provide further information on the incidents described and corrections to the data used. Correspondence should be addressed to:

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Explanation of Headings

Date

The start and end dates listed have been obtained from a variety of sources and, where possible, are accurate to the month, unless it is appropriate to link a specific date to an event. Where describing the span of an extended operation, the dates given generally refer to the unit's month of departure from, and return to, Australia. Where known, the actual dates of a unit's service within an operational area will be found in the 'Remarks' column. In some cases, dates in the shaded area at the beginning of each year may refer to the financial year and not the calendar year, eg. 2003 contains information from the 2002-2003 financial year.

Task

The description of tasks outside the yearly summary is, where one exists, based on the military codename allocated to the operation.

Type

The type categories allocated to each operation are based on the 'Span of Maritime Tasks' described in *Australian Maritime Doctrine*.² These categories are further discussed below and are not meant to be definitive, as clearly there will often be areas of overlap, particularly when units are engaged in a variety of simultaneous tasks within the scope of a single operation; hence, the assigned categories should be used only as a guide.

Maritime forces/units involved

Ship names are listed in alphabetical order. Ships may be entered more than once to show different time periods or operation names. Embarked helicopter flights are not normally mentioned separately.

Remarks

The shaded area at the beginning of each year is intended to provide an overview of ongoing RAN operations/activities over the course of that year. The Remarks column for this section is generally taken from the appropriate annual Defence Report or similar publications.

² Royal Australian Navy, *Australian Maritime Doctrine*, Defence Publishing Service, Canberra, 2000.

Categories of Operations

Maritime forces seek to establish sea control and/or sea denial in order to conduct the military task of power projection, and to permit the use of sea lines of communication by military, commercial and private shipping. These concepts are enabled through the specific characteristics of maritime forces, and applied through operations that reflect the range of maritime roles and tasks.

Australian maritime operations can be categorised according to the 'Triangle of Sea Usage', which in turn illustrates the 'Span of Maritime Tasks'. The three categories in the triangle that characterise the fundamental roles of maritime forces are 'military', 'diplomatic' and 'constabulary'. The foundation of the triangle is deliberately portrayed as the military capability because the ability of maritime forces to undertake their constabulary and diplomatic roles depends substantially on their ability to carry out their combat roles. The capability to do these things is thus largely a by-product of the resources and core skills developed for warfighting.

The 'Span of Maritime Tasks' originates from the trinity of naval functions posited by Ken Booth,³ developed by Eric Grove,⁴ and adapted to the Australian environment in *Australian Maritime Doctrine*. As a result of the research that developed this database,⁵ the following simplified version of the 'Triangle of Sea Usage' was developed with two purposes in mind:

- to clarify the interrelationships between maritime roles and tasks, while
- reflecting the tasks actually undertaken during the period 1990-2005.

However, it is important to remember that the diagram is not the doctrine. The diagram illustrates relationships, rather than definitively describing them. Similarly, the diagram does not describe how any of the roles and tasks assist in achieving any of the maritime strategic concepts, such as sea control, or how those concepts will be achieved in any given circumstance.

The categorisation of a task as either diplomatic or constabulary depends on the international standing of the action. UN sanctioned embargoes are part of an internationally agreed order and are not aimed at supporting foreign domestic governments. They therefore fall within the constabulary role. When the ADF provided support to the United Nations Assistance Mission to Rwanda in 1994 (Operation TAMAR) the RAN performed a constabulary role, which included providing medical support to the UN force and humanitarian

3 K. Booth, *Navies and Foreign Policy*, Croom Helm, London, 1977, p. 16.

4 E. Grove, *The Future of Sea Power*, United States Naval Institute Press, Annapolis, 1990, pp. 232-6.

5 Further discussed in Sea Power Centre - Australia, *The Role and Tasks of Maritime Forces*, Semaphore issue 13, November 2004.

assistance to the Rwandan people; however, unilateral operations fall within the diplomatic role, because they are defined primarily by national interest. Australia's second strategic objective is to help foster the stability, integrity and cohesion of our immediate neighbourhood. The RAN's involvement in the ADF contribution to the Australian-led Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands in 2004 (Operation ANODE) was therefore a diplomatic one; helping to restore law and order in the Solomon Islands in accordance with Australia's own national interest.

The interplay of the three categories can be demonstrated in the RAN's activities since 1990 in the Persian Gulf region, pursuant to Australia's commitment to enforce long-standing UN sanctions against Iraq, as well as supporting the ADF contribution to the International Coalition against Terror in 2001-2002 (Operation SLIPPER). During the 2003 Iraq War the RAN initially had a constabulary role in supporting operations as part of the multinational Maritime Interception Force, a role that it has undertaken since the initial deployment to the Persian Gulf in 1990 following the invasion of Kuwait (Operation DAMASK).

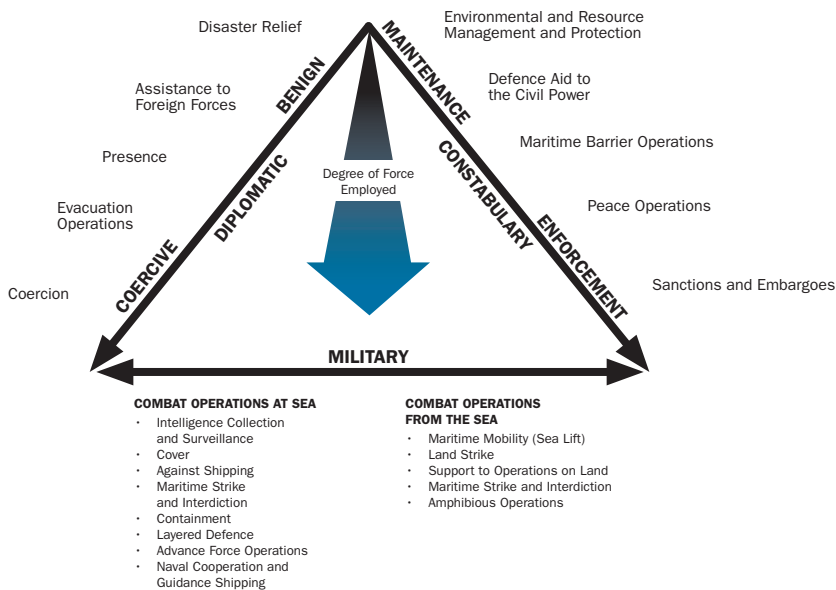


Figure 2: Revised span of maritime tasks

With the pre-deployment of forces to the Middle East in 2003 (Operation BASTILLE), the RAN's contribution became a coercive diplomatic operation, supporting pressure on Iraq to disarm. With the shift to combat operations to disarm Iraq in 2003 (Operation FALCONER) as part of the international coalition of military forces, the RAN's role then became military in nature. Following this, the RAN has supported Australia's contribution to stabilisation and recovery operations in Iraq in 2003-2005 (Operation CATALYST) - another coercive diplomatic operation. This transition between roles is a prime example of how the RAN's contribution depended on its inherent military capability; that is, the ability to use force, and the ability to escalate or reduce the use of force as necessary for each different operation.

Definition of Categories

Each entry in the database has been allocated a category of operation as listed in Figure 3.

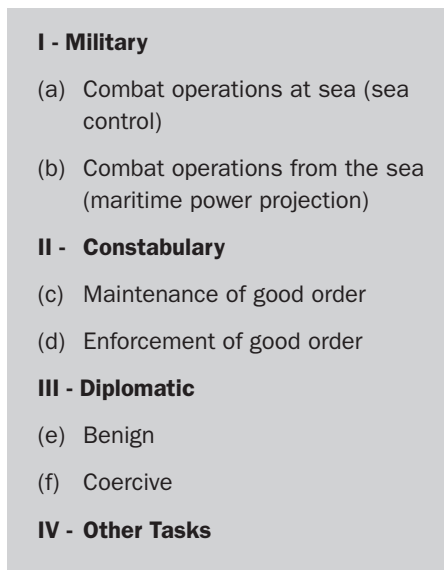


Figure 3: Categories of operations

These categories provide the researcher with a guide to where a particular operation fits within the 'Span of Maritime Tasks'. Each category is briefly described below.

I - Military

Sea Control

The condition that exists when one has freedom of action to use a maritime area for one's own purposes for a period of time and, if required, deny its use to an adversary. To be effective, control must be exercised over the air space above the sea, the water column and the seabed below it, and the electromagnetic spectrum. To an increasing degree, it also includes consideration of space based assets.

Maritime Power Projection

The ability to project, sustain and apply effective military force from the sea in order to influence events on land.

II - Constabulary

The use of military forces to uphold a national or international law, in a manner in which minimum violence is only used in enforcement as a last resort, and there is some evidence of a breach or intent to defy. The level and type of violence that is permitted will frequently be specified in the law, mandate or regime that is being enforced. Also called policing operations.

In this database constabulary operations in local waters or on the high seas are listed as 'II(c)' (Constabulary - Maintenance of Good Order), while constabulary operations in foreign waters are listed as 'III(e)' (Diplomatic - Benign). UN sanctioned embargoes fall under the category of constabulary operations (II d - Enforcement of Good Order) because they are not aimed at supporting foreign domestic governments.

III - Diplomatic

Naval diplomacy is the use of maritime forces in support of foreign policy. That is, the activities of maritime forces that are designed to influence the policies and actions of other nation states. One important aim is to develop conditions which will allow the successful conduct of coalition operations in the future. Benign operations include the use of naval capabilities not directly associated with combat. Coercive operations include the use of force, or the threat of force, to persuade an opponent to adopt a certain pattern of behaviour, against their wishes. Coercive operations may also include the deliberate withdrawal of naval visits.

IV - Other Tasks

Other tasks not mentioned above, such as disaster relief within Australia, Australian port visits and memorial ceremonies.

Personnel

The number of personnel serving in a particular unit is seldom static due to: postings to and from the units, in-service modifications, and regular changes in tasking. The figures below provide only an approximation of the numbers normally embarked. Readers wishing to make further use of this information, for instance to establish the numbers of personnel who served in a particular operation, should do so with caution.

| Nominal Complement | |
|---|------------|
| Anzac Class Frigate (FFH) | 165 |
| <i>Anzac (III), Arunta (II), Warramunga (II), Stuart (III), Parramatta (IV), Ballarat (II), Toowoomba (II), Perth (III)</i> | |
| Adelaide Class Guided Missile Frigate (FFG) | 185 |
| <i>Adelaide (II), Canberra (II), Sydney (IV), Darwin (II), Melbourne (III), Newcastle</i> | |
| River Class Frigate | 210 |
| <i>Parramatta (III), Stuart (II), Derwent (II), Swan (IV), Torrens (III)</i> | |
| Charles F Adams Class Guided Missile Destroyer (DDG) | 310 |
| <i>Perth (II), Hobart (II), Brisbane (II)</i> | |
| Amphibious Transport (LPA) | 220 |
| <i>Kanimbla (II), Manoora (II)</i> | |
| Durance Class Auxiliary Oiler Replenishment (AOR) | 220 |
| <i>Success (II)</i> | |
| Auxiliary Oiler (AO) - Large | 95 |
| <i>Westralia (II)</i> | |
| Landing Ship Heavy (LSH) | 145 |
| <i>Tobruk (II)</i> | |
| Helicopter, Logistic Support and Training Ship | 150 |
| <i>Jervis Bay</i> | |
| Cargo Ship, Roll on - Roll off | 20 |
| <i>Jervis Bay (II)</i> | |
| Collins Class Submarine (SSG) | 45 |
| <i>Collins, Farncomb, Waller, Dechaineux, Sheean, Rankin</i> | |

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Oberon Class Submarine (SSK) | 65 |
| <i>Oxley (II), Otway (II), Onslow, Orion, Otama, Ovens</i> | |
| Fremantle Class Patrol Boat (FCPB) | 25 |
| <i>Fremantle (III), Warrnambool (II), Townsville (III), Wollongong (II), Launceston (III), Whyalla (II), Ipswich (II), Cessnock (II), Bendigo (II), Gawler (II), Geraldton (II), Dubbo (II), Geelong (II), Gladstone (II), Bunbury (II)</i> | |
| Huon Class Coastal Minehunters (MHC) | 40 |
| <i>Huon (III), Hawkesbury (III), Norman (III), Gascoyne (II), Diamantina (II), Yarra (IV)</i> | |
| Hydrographic Survey Ships (AGS) | 45 |
| <i>Leeuwin (III), Melville</i> | |
| Paluma Class Survey Motor Launch (SML) | 15 |
| <i>Paluma (III), Mermaid (II), Shepparton (II), Benalla (II)</i> | |
| Balikpapan Class Landing Craft Heavy (LCH) | 15 |
| <i>Balikpapan, Brunei, Labuan (II), Tarakan (II), Wewak, Betano</i> | |
| 805 Squadron | 2 |
| <i>SH-2G-A Super Seasprite</i> | |
| 816 Squadron | 3 |
| <i>S-70B-2 Seahawk</i> | |
| 817 Squadron | 4 |
| <i>Mk50A Sea King</i> | |
| 723 Squadron | 3 |
| <i>AS350BA Squirrel, Bell 206 Kiowa</i> | |
| Two Masted Brigantine Sail Training Ship (STS) | 10 |
| <i>Young Endeavour</i> | |

Abbreviations and Acronyms

| | |
|----------|---|
| ACS | Australian Customs Service |
| ACT | Australian Capital Territory |
| ADF | Australian Defence Force |
| AFMA | Australian Fisheries Management Authority |
| AFP | Australian Federal Police |
| AFZ | Australian Fisheries Zone |
| AMZ | Australian Migration Zone |
| CDT | Clearance Diving Team |
| DIMIA | Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs |
| EEZ | Exclusive Economic Zone |
| EOD | Explosive Ordnance Disposal |
| FCPB | Fremantle Class Patrol Boat |
| FFV | Foreign Fishing Vessel(s) |
| FPDA | Five Power Defence Agreement |
| FV | Fishing Vessel |
| HMAS | Her Majesty's Australian Ship |
| HIMI | Heard Island and McDonald Islands |
| HODSU | Hydrographic Office Detached Survey Unit |
| IADS | Integrated Air Defence System |
| INTERFET | International Force in East Timor |
| LADS | Laser Airborne Depth Sounder |
| LCH | Landing Craft Heavy |
| MARSAR | Maritime Search and Rescue |
| MCAUST | Maritime Commander Australia |
| MCMV | Mine Counter-Measures Vessel |
| MEDEVAC | Medical Evacuation |
| MHC | Mine Hunter Coastal |

| | |
|-------|--|
| MIF | Multinational Interception Force |
| MNF | Multi National Force |
| MPA | Maritime Patrol Aircraft |
| MSA | Minesweeper Auxiliary |
| MV | Motor Vessel |
| NAS | Naval Air Station |
| NATO | North Atlantic Treaty Organisation |
| NSW | New South Wales |
| NT | Northern Territory |
| NZ | New Zealand |
| PLA-N | People's Liberation Army - Navy |
| PNG | Papua New Guinea |
| PNGDF | Papua New Guinea Defence Force |
| QLD | Queensland |
| RAAF | Royal Australian Air Force |
| RAMSI | Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands |
| RAN | Royal Australian Navy |
| RAR | Royal Australian Regiment |
| RBN | Royal Brunei Navy |
| RHIB | Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat |
| RMIS | Republic of the Marshall Islands Ship |
| RN | Royal Navy |
| RNZAF | Royal New Zealand Air Force |
| RNZN | Royal New Zealand Navy |
| ROK | Republic of Korea |
| RSN | Republic of Singapore Navy |
| SAR | Search and Rescue |
| SEA | South East Asia |
| SFOR | Stabilisation Force |

| | |
|--------|--|
| SIEV | Suspected Illegal Entry Vessel(s) |
| SUNC | Suspected Unlawful Non-Citizen(s) |
| SWP | South West Pacific |
| TG | Task Group |
| TMG | Truce Monitoring Group |
| TNI-AL | <i>Tentara Nasional Indonesia - Angkatan Laut</i> (Indonesian Navy) |
| UN | United Nations |
| UNAMIR | United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda |
| UNITAF | Unified Task Force in Somalia |
| US | United States |
| USN | United States Navy |
| UNSCOM | United Nations Special Commission |
| UNSCR | United Nations Security Council Resolution |
| UNSOM | United Nations Operation in Somalia |
| UNTAC | United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia |
| UNTAET | United Nations Transitional Authority East Timor |
| VE | Victory in Europe |
| VIC | Victoria |
| VP | Victory in the Pacific |
| WWI | World War One |
| WWII | World War Two |

| Start Date | End Date | Task or Operation Title | Type | Maritime Forces/Units | Remarks |
|------------|----------|-------------------------|---------|-----------------------|---|
| | Ongoing | ESTES | II c | Various RAN units | Conduct of surface patrols in Bass Strait. Commenced 1980. |
| | Ongoing | SOLANIA | II c | Various RAN units | Conduct of SWP maritime surveillance patrols. Commenced 1988. |
| 1990 | | Deployments | | Various RAN units | Rolling deployments to SEA undertaken throughout the year as a commitment to maintaining the visibility of Australian interest in the region. The RAN also maintained a high profile presence in the SWP |
| 1990 | | National Surveillance | | Patrol Boat Force | The Patrol Boat Force provided 1800 patrol days for civil coastal surveillance in support of Customs, Quarantine and Fisheries. Surveillance operations were focused to the north and south east of the continent with 41 patrols conducted in the Bass Strait oil producing areas. Major incursions by Indonesian vessels occurred in the King Sound area to the north west and the Arafura Sea to the north while an increasing number of Cambodian and Vietnamese refugee vessels were intercepted and escorted to Australian ports. 378 boardings were conducted on FFVs from Indonesia, Taiwan, Japan and Cambodia, with 59 apprehensions. |

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|------|-------------------------------------|----|---|---------------------------|--|
| 1990 | Geographic and Hydrographic Support | | | Hydrographic Survey Force | Surveys continued in Northern Australia, PNG and Antarctic waters, with <i>MV Lady Franklin</i> and <i>MV Polar Queen</i> sounding the Southern Oceans, Heard Island and Antarctica's approaches to Davis Anchorage respectively. |
| 1990 | Exercises | | | Various RAN units | The RAN continued to conduct ADF, regional and international exercises, including MANTAS 90, the first maritime surveillance exercise with SWP nations to be conducted on a multinational basis, and WEATHER EYE, a joint maritime surveillance exercise conducted with units of the Solomons maritime forces. |
| 1990 | | II | d | CDT 1 | Conducted seabed searches for contraband off Sydney's northern beaches. Emergency standby unit provided for Cyclone Joy. |
| 1990 | | II | c | CDT 4 | Undertook reconnaissance of <i>MV Sanko Harvest</i> which had foundered in 30 metres of water in Esperance area. The aim of the operation was to release the 100 tonnes of remaining oil. |
| 1990 | | II | c | 817 Squadron | Sea King in transit from <i>Cerberus</i> to NAS Nowra was diverted to rescue an injured skier near Mt Kosciuszko. |

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|------------|-----|---|--|---|
| Jan 90 | Apr 90 | DEFERENCE | III | f | Jervis Bay, Sydney, Tobruk | The Bougainville uprising caused ships to be placed on alert for evacuation of Australian nationals from Bougainville. Tobruk and Sydney stood down from alert in February. Sea King from 817 Squadron embarked in Tobruk. |
| 17 Jan 90 | | | II | c | Dubbo | Rescue of personnel lost overboard from a yacht in the approaches to Darwin Harbour. |
| 19 Jan 90 | 20 Jan 90 | | II | c | Cessnock | Assistance in an ultimately fruitless search for three men missing from MV Desa in Beagle Gulf. |
| Feb 90 | | | II | c | 3 Cairns-based patrol boats, Torrrens, P3C | Coordinated maritime surveillance operation in Far North Queensland waters. Coastwatch aircraft also involved. |
| Feb 90 | Apr 90 | VISITATION | III | e | Oxley, Sydney, Tobruk | Visit to Anzac Cove for the commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the ANZAC landing. Personnel from Oxley also given a private audience with Pope John Paul II in Italy. Included Operation TASK FORCE GALLIPOLI - support for WWI Veterans 75th Anniversary pilgrimage. |

| | | | | | | |
|----------|----------|--|-----|---|----------------|---|
| 5 Mar 90 | 8 Sep 90 | | III | e | Sydney | Global circumnavigation in part to provide support to diplomatic missions in Europe and North America. Australian Tourist Commission and numerous export-orientated businesses closely involved. Visits to Kiel, Stockholm and Oslo were included at the specific request of Australian diplomatic missions. This operation included the first visit to Sweden by a RAN unit. |
| 6 Mar 90 | | | II | c | 723 Squadron | HS748 conducted a MEDEVAC from Christmas Island to Learmonth. |
| 7 Mar 90 | | | II | c | 816 Squadron | Boy rescued by Seahawk helicopter after being swept from rocks at Currawong on NSW South Coast. |
| Mar 90 | | | II | c | 723 Squadron | Bell 206 involved in a search for fishermen swept off rocks at Beecroft Heads. One person rescued. |
| Apr 90 | | | II | c | 816 Squadron | Seahawks involved in a search for a group of Scouts missing in Kangaroo Valley, NSW. |
| Apr 90 | | | III | e | Tarakan, CDT 1 | Deployment to the Solomon Islands as part of the Defence Cooperation Program. CDT 1 involved in reef channel clearance for local communities. |
| 2 Apr 90 | | | II | c | Bunbury | 118 IndoChinese refugees rescued near Koolan Island off the Kimberly coast. |

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|-----------|--|-----|---|---|---|
| 11 Apr 90 | | II | d | Gladstone | Taiwanese trawler apprehended after a five hour 'hot pursuit'. |
| 24 Apr 90 | | II | c | 817 Squadron | Two Sea Kings evacuated 370 residents from floods at Nyngan, NSW and provided food and medical supplies. |
| 25 Apr 90 | | III | e | Gawler | Visit to Ambon in Indonesia to participate in WWII Sparrow Force commemoration. |
| 16 May 90 | | III | e | Canberra, Cessnock, Derwent, Ipswich, Parramatta, Westralia | Ships attended the Royal Malaysian Navy's 55th Anniversary International Royal Fleet Review at Penang. 64 Ships from 21 countries participated. |
| 31 May 90 | | III | e | Gladstone, Launceston | Visit to Apia to participate in Western Samoa's National Day celebrations. |
| 1 Jun 90 | | II | d | Townsville | Interception of an Indochinese vessel after a three day surveillance operation coordinated by Coastwatch. The vessel sank off Bathurst Island while the boarding was being conducted and 79 Cambodian nationals, including the crew and comprising 45 men, 17 women and 17 children, were rescued and transported safely to Darwin. |
| 12 Jun 90 | | II | c | 817 Squadron | Rescue of a fisherman swept from the rocks off the South Coast of NSW. |

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|-----------|--------|--------|-----|---|------------------|--|
| Jul 90 | | | III | e | Cessnock | RAN personnel took part in Vanuatu Independence Day parade, watched by heads of government attending the SWP Forum conference. |
| 2 Jul 90 | | | III | e | Townsville | Visit made to Nuku'Alofa to take part in the King of Tonga's birthday celebrations. |
| 3 Jul 90 | | | III | e | Adelaide | Visit to Papeete in Tahiti. First RAN vessel to visit the island in over twenty years. |
| 9 Jul 90 | | | III | e | Brunei | Visit to Honiara to take part in Solomon Islands National Day celebrations. |
| 25 Jul 90 | | | II | d | Gladstone | Shots fired ahead of a Taiwanese long-liner to stop the vessel after it was discovered fishing illegally. |
| Aug 90 | | | III | e | Sydney | Participation in a US counter-narcotics surveillance effort in the Caribbean and off the coast of Mexico. |
| Aug 90 | Dec 90 | DAMASK | II | d | Adelaide, Darwin | ADF contribution to UN sanctions against Iraq and US Operation DESERT SHIELD. RAN units were actively involved in surveillance and boarding operations against potential and actual sanction breakers. (3 Sep 90 - 3 Dec 90). |

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|--------|-------------|-----|---|---|--|
| Aug 90 | Feb 91 | DAMASK (I) | II | d | Success | ADF contribution to UN sanctions against Iraq and US Operation DESERT SHIELD. RAN units were actively involved in surveillance and boarding operations against potential and actual sanction breakers. (3 Sep 90 - 22 Dec 90 and 29 Dec 90 - 25 Jan 91). |
| 7 Aug 90 | | | II | c | Swan | Food, water and an update of navigational information provided to a refugee boat in the South China Sea. |
| 16 Aug 90 | | | III | e | Gladstone, Wollongong | Visit to Port Moresby to participate in PNG Independence Day celebrations. |
| Sep 90 | | | II | c | Benalla, Mermaid, Moresby, Paluma, Shepparton | The largest number of RAN survey vessels assembled since WWII, took part in survey operations off Arnhem Land. |
| 1 Oct 90 | | | III | e | Gladstone | Visit to Funafuti to participate in Tuvalu National Day celebrations. On the return passage, Gladstone undertook community aid projects in the Solomon Islands. |
| Nov 90 | Apr 91 | DAMASK (II) | II | d | Brisbane, Sydney | ADF contribution to UN sanctions against Iraq and US Operation DESERT SHIELD. RAN units were actively involved in surveillance and boarding operations against potential and actual sanction breakers. (Brisbane, Sydney 3 Dec 90 - 26 Mar 91). |

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|-------------|-----|---|-------------------|--|
| Nov 90 | | | III | e | <i>Tobruk</i> | Preservation work carried out on Hellfire Pass on the site of the infamous Burma-Thailand Railway. |
| Nov 90 | | | II | c | <i>Flinders</i> | Survey of waters near Woodlark Island in PNG completed, followed by a survey to find a new deepwater shipping route between Australia, PNG and Asia. |
| 12 Nov 90 | | | II | c | <i>Dubbo</i> | Fire fighting assistance provided to prawn trawler. Vessel could not be saved and crew of five were recovered. |
| 19 Nov 90 | | | II | c | 817 Squadron | Two Sea Kings rescued three fishermen in high seas north east of Newcastle. |
| 6 Dec 90 | | | II | d | 723 Squadron | Bell 206 assisted police in the search for illegal drug crops in the Shoalhaven district. |
| 11 Dec 90 | | | II | c | <i>Launceston</i> | Rescue of the five man crew of a fishing vessel abandoned in heavy seas in the Joseph Bonaparte Gulf. P3C also involved. |
| 1991 | | Deployments | | | Various RAN units | Thirteen deployments made to the SEA and SWP regions. An almost continuous presence was maintained in SEA while most nations in the SWP region were visited. |

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| 1991 | National Surveillance | | Patrol Boat Force | Patrol boats provided 1800 patrol days in support of Customs, Quarantine and Fisheries agencies. Surveillance operations were focused off the north and north east of the continent. 247 boardings conducted with 15 apprehensions. Vessels boarded included some from Indonesia, Japan and Taiwan while a number of Cambodian refugee vessels were intercepted and escorted to Australian ports. |
| 1991 | Geographic and Hydrographic Support | | Hydrographic Survey Force | Surveys conducted off Arnhem Land, Esperance, Coral Sea, Halifax Bay and North West Island, Queensland, North East PNG and Antarctica, <i>Moresby</i> , <i>Mermaid</i> and <i>Paluma</i> worked in company off Melville Island, NT. |
| 1991 | Exercises | | Various RAN units | The RAN continued to conduct ADF, regional and international exercises, including STARFISH 91 in the South China Sea with 32 ships from five nations involved. |
| 1991 | | II | CDT 1 | Diving and demolition tasks conducted on WWII wrecks in Darwin. |
| 6 Jan 91 | | II | Brisbane | Repairs carried out on disabled Pakistani fishing boat found after five days adrift in the Gulf of Oman. |

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| Jan 91 | Feb 91 | DAMASK (II) | I | a | Brisbane, Sydney, Westralia, CDT 3, medical teams | ADF contribution to US Operation DESERT STORM and the 1990-91 Gulf War. <i>Brisbane</i> and <i>Sydney</i> operated as an integral part of the USN's Battle Group Zulu, which provided air strikes ashore and defence of the Coalition's right flank. Success and later <i>Westralia</i> were similarly integrated into the combat logistics force. Later <i>Sydney</i> operated in the Combat Search and Rescue role. An ADF Medical Support Team served in the US Hospital Ship <i>Comfort</i> . (26 Jan 91 - 28 Feb 91) |
| Feb 91 | | | III | e | Perth | Deployment to the Mediterranean in support of the 50th Anniversary of the campaigns in Greece and Crete. |
| 12 Feb 91 | | | IV | | Jervis Bay (I) | Flagship for the 1991 Hobart Regatta. |
| Feb 91 | Jun 91 | DAMASK (II) | II | d | Westralia, CDT 3 | After the 1990-91 Gulf War MIF operations were continued until May while CDT 3 conducted explosive ordnance disposal and port clearance operations in Kuwait. (29 Feb 91 - 28 May 91) |
| 5 Mar 91 | | | II | c | Flinders | Rescue of three PNG fishermen in heavy surf at the entrance to Kerama Bay. |

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| 12 Mar 91 | 25 Mar 91 | | II | | <i>Bendigo, Dubbo, Geelong, Gladstone</i> | Patrol boats with aid from Coastwatch aircraft carried out the biggest fisheries surveillance operation ever in northern waters. 35 Indonesian vessels operating illegally at the entrance to the Gulf of Carpentaria apprehended. Gladstone apprehended a record 12 FFVs in one day. |
| Apr 91 | Sep 91 | DAMASK (III) | II | | <i>Darwin</i> | Deployment to Arabian Gulf for MIF operations enforcing UN sanctions against Iraq. Included escort of merchant ships through swept channels into Kuwait. (13 Jun 91 - 4 Sep 91) |
| 23 Apr 91 | 26 Apr 91 | | III | | <i>Launceston, Wollongong</i> | Visit to Ambon in Indonesia for Anzac Day Service and Gull Force commemorations. |
| May 91 | Jun 00 | BLAZER | III | | Personnel | ADF contribution to UNSCOM, a special commission to identify the locations and oversee the destruction of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. The RAN provided a variety of specialist personnel. |
| 28 May 91 | | | III | | <i>Gawler</i> | Visit to Honiara to participate in a sea day for local VIPs and media with Solomon Islands and Tongan patrol boats. |

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| 29 May 91 | | | III | e | Gladstone | First RAN visit to Philippine provincial city of Bacolod concluded with a sea day for local VIPs and media. |
| Jun 91 | | GULF STORM | II | d | Bendigo | 42 fishing vessels boarded off Tasmanian coast in a five day coordinated operation with the Australian Fisheries Service. |
| Jun 91 | | | II | c | 817 Squadron | Helicopters rescue 38 people after flooding on the southern NSW coast. |
| 8 Jul 91 | | | II | c | Perth | During an exercise in the South China Sea, Perth recovered the pilot of a Singaporean F-16 after two aircraft collided. |
| 21 Jul 91 | | | II | c | Geraldton | Geraldton sailed at short notice from Stirling to assist Greek vessel <i>Kirki</i> and acted as communications link with shore authorities. |
| Sep 91 | Feb 92 | DAMASK (IV) | II | d | Sydney | Deployment to the Northern Red Sea for MIF operations enforcing UN sanctions against Iraq. (25 Sep 91 - 31 Jan 92) |
| Sep 91 | | | III | e | Swan, Westralia | Repair work carried out at Olongapo Hospital, a major evacuation centre in the wake of volcanic eruptions in the Philippines. |

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| 12 Sep 91 | | | III | e | Dubbo | Dubbo arrived in the Marshall Islands with the patrol boat RMIS Lomor on her delivery voyage. Visit extended by one day so that the President could personally extend hospitality. |
| Oct 91 | | | III | e | Dubbo, Hobart, Ipswich, Perth, | Visit to Auckland for the RNZN's 50th anniversary celebrations. |
| 1992 | | Deployments | | | Various RAN units | Fifteen deployments made to SEA and SWP; with HMA submarines maintaining an almost continuous SEA presence during the last six months of 1992. |
| 1992 | | National Surveillance | | | Patrol Boat Force FCPBs | Patrol boats provided 1811 patrol days in support of customs, quarantine and fisheries agencies. Surveillance operations focused on north and north east of the continent. 289 boardings conducted with 31 apprehensions. |
| 1992 | | Geographic and Hydrographic Support | | | Hydrographic Survey Force | Surveys were conducted in Arnhem Land, Gulf of Papua, Coral Sea, Great North East Channel, Great Barrier Reef and Antarctica. |

| 1992 | | Exercises | | Various RAN units | The RAN continued to conduct ADF, regional and international exercises, including RIMPAC 92 - a joint and combined maritime exercise offering a unique opportunity to develop and enhance interoperability with US and other nations' maritime forces in a simulated hostile environment. |
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| 3 Jan 92 | | | II | Townsville | Divers disposed of 12 unexploded bombs found on Middleton Reef. |
| 17 Jan 92 | | | III | Ipswich | Mobile Naval Review took place at Honiara in the presence of the Governor-General of the Solomon Islands. |
| Feb 92 | Aug 92 | DAMASK (V) | II | Darwin | Deployment to Red Sea for MIF operations enforcing UN sanctions against Iraq. (11 Mar 92 - 16 Jul 92) |
| 7 Feb 92 | | | IV | Perth | A wreath laying service was conducted over the spot where the first Perth and USS Houston were sunk in the Battle of Sunda Strait in 1942. |

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| Dec 92 | Jun 93 | SOLACE | II | d | <i>Jervis Bay (I), Tobruk</i> | ADF contribution to UNITAF and Operation RESTORE HOPE, a US led coalition force, enforcing peace and safeguarding humanitarian relief supplies in Somalia. The RAN initially provided strategic sea-lift for 1 RAR Battalion Group. Subsequently <i>Tobruk</i> was integrated into the MNF and provided logistic, communication, intelligence and air support to both Australian and coalition forces. |
| Mar 92 | Sep 93 | GEMINI | II | d | Personnel | ADF contribution to UNTAC, an operation to oversee free and fair elections in Cambodia. RAN provided part of the communications and movement control unit. |
| 22 Mar 92 | | | II | d | Patrol Boat Force FCPBs | Whilst taking part in Exercise KANGAROO 92, patrol boats apprehended three Indonesian fishing vessels operating illegally within the AFZ. |
| 24 Mar 92 | | | III | e | <i>Gladstone, Torrens</i> | First visit to the Philippine port of Cagayan de Oro. |

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| Apr 92 | May 92 | CORAL SEA | III | e | Various RAN units | RAN/USN exercise to mark the 50th anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea, culminating in a Fleet Entry into Sydney Harbour in the presence of the Governor-General, Prime Minister and US Secretary of Defence. |
| May 92 | Apr 93 | CLAMSAVER | II | c | <i>Tarakan</i> | In conjunction with the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, thousands of baby clams transported to new locations to alleviate overcrowding. |
| 18 Jun 92 | | | III | e | <i>Swan, Westralia</i> | First RAN visit to San Fernando since the Allied landing in Lingayen Gulf in January 1945. |
| 22 Jul 92 | | | II | c | <i>Geraldton</i> | Loggerhead turtles released along northern West Australian coastline for Department of Conservation and Land Management. |
| 6 Aug 92 | | | III | e | <i>Tobruk</i> | Visit to Honiara in the Solomon Islands to take part in activities commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Guadalcanal. |
| 25 Aug 92 | | | III | e | CDT 1 | CDT 1 assisted in a wharf construction and channel clearance project in the Solomons. |
| Oct 92 | Apr 93 | DAMASK (VI) | II | d | <i>Canberra</i> | Deployment to Red Sea for MIF operations enforcing UN sanctions against Iraq. (13 Nov 92 - 12 Mar 92) |

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| 1992 | Dec 92 | | III | e | <i>Young Endeavour</i> | Global circumnavigation that included providing Australian representation at the Quincentennial Columbus Regatta in New York. |
| 1993 | | Deployments | | | Various RAN units | Deployments to SEA and SWP continued. |
| 1993 | | National Surveillance | | | Patrol Boat Force | Surveillance of the Australian Fishing Zone continued at 1839 patrol boat days and surveillance of the Bass Strait Oil Rigs at the required minimum of 33 ship visits per year. 231 boardings conducted with 31 apprehensions. |
| 1993 | | Geographic and Hydrographic Support | | | Hydrographic Survey Force | 7170 nm ² surveyed in Arnhem Land, Gulf of Papua, Torres Strait, Great Barrier Reef, South Australia, Norfolk Island and Macquarie Island. |
| 1993 | | Exercises | | | Various RAN units | The RAN continued to conduct ADF, regional and international exercises, including NEW HORIZON V11/93 designed to improve the interoperability of ADF and TNI Forces in combined maritime procedures and tactics. |
| 1993 | Jul 97 | BANNER | III | e | Personnel | RAN personnel involved in the Maritime Assistance Project (Cambodia) provided training for the development of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces maritime force. |

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| Mar 93 | Nov 94 | IGUANA | II | d | Personnel | ADF operation as part of UNSOM to monitor the cease fire agreement between the principal factions in Somalia and Kenya, coordinate humanitarian assistance and ensure the safety of relief supplies. |
| Mar 93 | | | IV | | Geelong | Series of visits to Aboriginal communities in the Tiwi Islands and Arnhem Land conducted as part of a Customs and Navy awareness campaign. |
| 5 Mar 93 | | | III | e | Derwent | Derwent berthed at Suva for a four-day visit. The first major fleet unit visit since the 1987 coup. |
| 23 Mar 93 | | | III | e | Melbourne | First RAN visit made to the Philippine port of General Santos as part of a wider Australian/Mindanao Week. |
| May 93 | Ongoing | KAKADU | III | e | Various RAN units | First biennial Fleet Concentration Period involving a growing number of SEA nations participating on a bilateral basis. |
| Jun 93 | Dec 93 | DAMASK (VII) | II | d | Sydney | Deployment to Red Sea for MIF operations enforcing UN sanctions against Iraq. (20 Jul 93 - 9 Nov 93) |
| Aug 93 | | | III | e | Ipswich | Patrol of Melanesian Basin including visits to Funafuti, Tarawa, Majuro, Pohnpei and Kavieng. |

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| 18 Oct 93 | | | II | d | Sydney | Sydney received clearance to conduct helicopter operations in Jordan during a visit to Aqaba, a first for any nation involved in MIF Operations. |
| Dec 93 | | | III | e | Canberra, Perth | Visit to Langkawi Island, Malaysia for the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition, which was attended by Australia's Defence and Trade Ministers. Diving teams assisted Royal Malaysian Police in the search and recovery of the body of a crewman who had fallen overboard from MV <i>Leisureworld</i> . |
| 26 Dec 93 | Jan 94 | | II | c | 817 Squadron | Due to forecast heavy weather 817 Squadron placed on standby to provide assistance to participants in the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race. |
| 1994 | | Deployments | | | Various RAN units | Deployments to North Asia, SEA and SWP continued. |
| 1994 | | National Surveillance | | | Patrol Boat Force | Surveillance of the Australian Fishing Zone continued at 1775 patrol boat days and surveillance of the Bass Strait Oil Rigs at the required minimum of 33 ship visits per year. 378 boardings conducted with 129 apprehensions, the increase being due to higher levels of FFV and refugee activity. |

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| 1994 | Geographic and Hydrographic Support | | | | Hydrographic Survey Force | 6689 nm ² surveyed in Arnhem Land, Gulf of Carpentaria, Cooktown, Gulf of Papua, Bismark Sea, Island of New Britain, Great Barrier Reef, Queensland and Torres Strait. |
| 1994 | Exercises | | | | Various RAN units | The RAN continued to conduct ADF, regional and international exercises, including RIMPAC and SANDGROPER 94, which was designed to enhance interoperability with US forces by observing and participating in a multi-threat combined low level amphibious operation, including Service-Protected Evacuation. |
| Jan 94 | EVERGREEN | II | c | | 817 Squadron, 816 Squadron, 723 Squadron, personnel, all ships berthed at Fleet Base East | ADF assistance to the civilian community during NSW bushfire emergency. RAN involved in emergency evacuation, personnel and stores transfers, water bombing, fire spotting and fire-fighting tasks. |
| 31 Jan 94 | | III | e | | Canberra, Perth | Anchored at the Bay of Islands, New Zealand to participate in Waitangi Day celebrations. |
| Feb 94 | | III | e | | Townsville | Patrol of Coral Sea included visits to eastern PNG ports. |
| 14 Mar 94 | | II | c | | Sydney, 816 Squadron | Rescue of crew members of Pacific Breeze participating in the Trans - Tasman Yacht race. |

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| 25 Apr 94 | | | III | e | Cessnock, Dubbo | Ships visited Ambon, Indonesia for Anzac Day as part of the annual Gull Force pilgrimage. |
| Jun 94 | | | III | e | Swan, Torrens | Ships visited Surabaya and Jakarta to support Australia Today - Indonesia trade initiative sponsored by the Australian Government. |
| 21 Jul 94 | | | II | c | Melbourne, 816 Squadron | Medical and damage control assistance provided to the long-line tuna fishing boat <i>Sea Princess</i> after the vessel was disabled by a freak wave 120 nm off the NSW coast. |
| Aug 94 | | TAMAR | II | d | Personnel | ADF contribution to UNAMIR, providing medical support to the UN force and humanitarian assistance to the Rwandan people. |
| Sep 94 | | | II | c | CDT 1 | Divers recovered parts of a crashed Catalina aircraft in Darwin harbour. |
| Sep 94 | Oct 94 | LAGOON | III | f | Ipswich, Success, Tobruk, CDT 1 detachment, 817 Squadron detachment | ADF operation to provide a secure environment for the conduct of the Bougainville Peace Conference. RAN also provided afloat command and control and logistics support. |
| Oct 94 | | | III | e | Brisbane, Dubbo, Westralia | Visit to Tacloban, Philippines for 50th anniversary of the Battle of Leyte Gulf. |

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| 3 Oct 94 | 5 Oct 94 | | II | c | Sydney | Assistance in the search for an aircraft with nine people on board that had ditched in the Tasman Sea enroute to Lord Howe Island. No survivors were found, although Sydney recovered several pieces of floating wreckage. |
| Dec 94 | | | II | c | Bendigo | Bendigo provided medical assistance during escort of the South Pacific Patrol Boat Te Mataiili to Honiara. |
| Dec 94 | Jan 95 | | II | c | Darwin | Rescue of yachtswoman Isobel Autissier in the Southern Ocean after her yacht <i>Ecuireille</i> was disabled in a solo around the world race. |
| 1995 | | Deployments | | | Various RAN units | Deployments to SEA and SWP continued. |
| 1995 | | National Surveillance | | | Patrol Boat Force | Surveillance of the Australian Fishing Zone continued at 1833 patrol boat days and surveillance of the Bass Strait Oil Rigs at the required minimum of 33 ship visits per year. 202 boardings conducted with 68 apprehensions. |
| 1995 | | Geographic and Hydrographic Support | | | Hydrographic Survey Force | 5468 nm ² surveyed in Arnhem Land, Great Barrier Reef, QLD, Torres Strait, South Australian Gulfs and Sahul Banks |

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| 1995 | | Exercises | | | Various RAN units | The RAN continued to conduct ADF, regional and international exercises, including BELLBOY 95 involving US, Canada, NZ and SEA nations, designed to test and evaluate Naval Control and Protection of Shipping procedures during a period of tension. |
| 1995 | Jun 04 | BURBAGE | II | c | Various RAN units | Conduct of Indian Ocean maritime surveillance patrols. Intent and tasks of this operation incorporated into Operation CRANBERRY. |
| 1995 | Jun 04 | OSTEAL | II | c | Various RAN units | Conduct of Coral Sea maritime surveillance patrols. Intent and tasks of this operation incorporated into Operation CRANBERRY. |
| 1995 | Jun 04 | MELLIN | II | c | Various RAN units | Contribution to Torres Strait and Timor Gap maritime surveillance patrols. Intent and tasks of this operation incorporated into Operation CRANBERRY. |
| 1995 | | | II | c | Personnel | ADF support to NSW bushfires. |
| 1995 | | | III | f | All RAN units | Visits to French Pacific territories suspended in response to French nuclear testing program. |
| Jan 95 | | | II | c | Flinders | Flinders began survey operations in the Torres Strait. |

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| Jan 95 | | ASHEN | | II | d | Gladstone | Drug interdiction operation in conjunction with Coastwatch, Customs and Federal Police. |
| Feb 95 | | | | II | c | Brisbane | Brisbane assisted in a MEDEVAC from the merchant ship <i>Rybnovsk</i> . |
| Mar 95 | | | | II | c | Flinders | Survey completed of Rabaul Harbour to determine the impact of recent volcanic eruptions on safe navigation at the PNG Government's request. |
| May 95 | | | | III | e | Kanimbla, Newcastle | Participation in celebrations commemorating the 50th Anniversary of VE day. |
| 15 May 95 | 19 May 95 | | | III | e | Sydney | First Australian warship to visit the Russian Pacific port of Vladivostok. Specifically arranged to assist an Austrade promotion of Australian exports. |
| 27 Jul 95 | 28 Jul 95 | SALMON | | II | c | | Support provided to Japanese fishing vessel stranded on Isle St Paul. |
| Aug 95 | | | | III | e | Darwin, Torrens, Whyalla, Wollongong, Young Endeavour | Visit to Jakarta to celebrate the Republic of Indonesia's 50th Anniversary of Independence. |
| Aug 95 | | | | III | e | Hobart, Kanimbla, Newcastle, Townsville | Visits made to Balikpapan, Sandakan, Lumut, Brisbane and Townsville to support 50th anniversary of VP Day commemorations. |

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| Oct 95 | | | III | e | Onslow | Visit to the Malaysian port of Kota Sabah. First visit by an Australian submarine for 30 years. |
| Oct 95 | | | III | e | Newcastle | During a deployment to SWP, the ship's company provided assistance to local Jongan communities, including the painting of schools. |
| 1996 | | Deployments | | | Various RAN units | Deployments to SEA and SWP continued. <i>Tobruk</i> made operational visit to Guam. |
| 1996 | | National Surveillance | | | Patrol Boat Force | Surveillance of the AFZ and Bass Strait Oil Rigs continued at 1796 patrol boat days. 289 boardings were conducted with 117 apprehensions. |
| 1996 | | Geographic and Hydrographic Support | | | Hydrographic Survey Force | 6858 nm ² surveyed in Arnhem Land, Great Barrier Reef, Coral Seas Reefs, St. Vincent Gulf, Bass Strait, Sahul Banks, Torres Strait, PNG and Antarctica. |
| 1996 | | Exercises | | | Various RAN units | The RAN continued to conduct ADF, regional and international exercises, including RIMPAC 96 involving the US, Japan, Canada, ROK and Chile designed to enhance interoperability between all participating nations, in a multi-threat littoral environment. |
| 1996 | | GUNWHALE | II | c | Patrol Boat Force | Fisheries surveillance. |

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| 1996 | Jun 04 | BEACH-COMBER | II | c | Various RAN units | Collection of beach information in Australia for operational planning. The tasks of this operation were incorporated into amphibious exercises. |
| 1996 | Jun 04 | PROWLER | II | c | Various RAN units | Collection of military geographic information in northern Australia. The tasks of this operation were incorporated into amphibious exercises. |
| Apr 96 | Sep 96 | DAMASK (VIII) | II | d | Melbourne | MIF operations conducted in the Arabian Gulf enforcing UN sanctions against Iraq. (7 May 96 - 15 Aug 96) |
| 25 Jun 96 | | | II | c | 816 Squadron | Seahawk aircraft rescued two people in rough seas 100 nm east of Lord Howe Island, from the disabled yacht <i>Goodwind</i> . |
| Sep 96 | | | II | c | Success | Ships personnel assisted in the setting up of a rope traverse at Coff Harbour Zoo, to determine if koalas would use one to cross roads. |
| 19 Nov 96 | 23 Nov 96 | BUSKIN | III | e | Bendigo, Dubbo, Gladstone, CDT 1 | ADF support to the visit operations conducted as part of the USA President's visit to Australia. |
| 1997 | | Deployments | | | Various RAN Units | Perth, Newcastle and Success visited Chinese and South Korean cities and Guam. |

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| 1997 | National Surveillance | | | Patrol Boat Force | Maritime surveillance of the Australian EEZ. Several vessels engaged in illegal activities were detected and detained. 13 SIEVs arrived in Australian waters during the period, with 157 SUNCs detained at sea. |
| 1997 | Geographic and Hydrographic Support | | | Marine Science Force | Surveys conducted in Fairway Channel, QLD, Torres Strait, Van Dieman Gulf and Beagle Gulf and Joseph Boneparte Gulf. |
| 1997 | Exercises | | | Various RAN Units | The RAN continued to conduct ADF, regional and international exercises, including KAKADU III with New Zealand, Malaysia, Thailand and Singapore. Exercise PENGUIN with the RBN aimed at increasing the interoperability between the two navies and focused on improving the operational abilities of the RBN. |
| 1997 | | II | c | Melbourne | In conjunction with RAAF and civilian aircraft the stricken yacht <i>Orca</i> was located and two crew rescued. |
| 1997 | OSIER | II | d | Personnel | ADF provided personnel, including one RAN officer, to fill staff appointments with the SFOR, a UN mandated, NATO led mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina. |
| 1997 | BARITONE | III | f | Sydney and other units | RAN units placed on alert to evacuate nationals following political disturbances in PNG. |

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| 1997 | BANNER | III | f | Darwin | ADF response to coup in Cambodia. <i>Darwin</i> placed on alert to evacuate nationals while RAN personnel provided mobile guard force in Phnom Penh. |
| 1997 | | II | d | Dubbo, Wollongong | 11 FFVs apprehended in three-week campaign against illegal long-line fishermen. |
| Jan 97 | | II | c | Adelaide | Rescue of two yachtsman, Tony Bullimore and Thierry Dubois 1400 nm into the Southern Ocean. |
| 23 Jan 97 | | II | d | All RAN units | Federal Resources Minister announced that the RAN would seize Japanese vessels caught fishing in the Australian EEZ after a failure to reach agreement over tuna quotas. |
| 28 Jan 97 | | II | c | Personnel | Five naval divers from Cairns assist in the search for two American divers missing on the Great Barrier Reef. |
| Mar 97 | BLIZZARD | II | c | Melbourne | Unsuccessful search for the yacht <i>Queen Charlotte</i> in the Coral Sea. |
| May 97 | | III | e | Adelaide | Represented Australia at the Philippines Centenary International Naval Review. |

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| Jun 97 | | | II | c | <i>Bendigo</i> | Assistance provided to the sloop <i>Christobel</i> aground and taking water off Cairns. After securing the sloop the two crew members were transferred to Cairns. |
| Jun 97 | | | III | e | <i>Ipswich, Warrnambool</i> | Renovation work undertaken at disabled children's centre Nuku'Alofa in Tonga. |
| Jun 97 | Ongoing | CRANBERRY | II | c | Various RAN units | To coordinate the intelligence and provide surveillance information to the civil authorities that are operating in northern Australia. |
| Jul 97 | | | III | e | <i>Betano, Gawler, Geelong, Tarakan</i> | Refurbishment of Manggai High School, New Ireland. PNGDF also involved. |
| Jul 97 | | | III | e | <i>Bendigo</i> | Provided assistance to an Australian-Indonesian committee investigating the future of Ashmore Reef by transporting the Indonesian Parliamentary Advisory Committee from Kupang, Timor to Ashmore Reef and back. |
| 31 Jul 97 | | | II | c | 817 Squadron, 816 Squadron | Helicopters assist rescue operations after Thredbo landslide disaster. |

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| Aug 97 | Sep 97 | | III | e | Newcastle, Perth, Success | In the most substantial level of interaction ever, a RAN task group visited the PLA-N's Northern Fleet Base of Qingdao to mark the 25th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations and the high level of importance placed on effective dialogue and cooperation with China. Upon departure from Qingdao, the first PASSEX between Australian and PRC units was conducted. |
| Aug 97 | | COULTER | III | f | | Task Group placed on standby for the evacuation of Australian nationals from east Malaysia. |
| 8 Nov 97 | | | II | c | Gladstone | Five men rescued after their fishing vessel sank near Snake Reef north of Cooktown. |
| 10 Sep 97 | | | II | c | Gawler | The crew of a traditional Indonesian cargo vessel were rescued after they had become lost and becalmed 310 nm north of Darwin. |
| Sep 97 | | CUTOUT | II | d | Warrnambool | Patrol of the east of Australia searching for illegal Japanese tuna boats. |
| Sep 97 | | | II | d | Ipswich | Shots fired to stop an Indonesian fishing vessel during a six hour chase in the Arafura Sea. |

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| Oct 97 | | | II | d | Whyalla | Movements of a motor craft with 39 Chinese aboard monitored as it transited the top of Cape York. |
| 7 Oct 97 | 17 Oct 97 | DIRK | II | d | Anzac, Westralia | Two FFVs apprehended in the HIMI EEZ, 2200 nm from Fremantle in conjunction with AFMA. The Minister for Defence said the operation sent 'a powerful international message to those who would threaten Australia's territory or sovereignty'. |
| Nov 97 | | | II | d | Townsville | Freighter carrying 70 Chinese monitored after it was discovered near Cape York. |
| Nov 97 | | SIERRA | III | e | Baikpapan, Labuan, Tarakan | As part of ADF drought relief operations (Operation PLES DRA) in PNG, RAN landing craft assisted with the delivery of vehicles, bulk rice, oil, flour and water to coastal areas in the Gulf and Milne Bay provinces. |

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| Nov 97 | May 98 | BEL ISI I | III | f | <i>Baikpapan, Betano, Brunei, Labuan, Success, Tarakan, Tobruk</i> | ADF response to agreement ending nine years of civil war on Bougainville. <i>Tobruk</i> transported personnel, vehicles and equipment in support of the multinational Truce Monitoring Group. <i>Success</i> provided an afloat headquarters. (<i>Success</i> 1 Dec 97 - 13 Jan 98, <i>Tobruk</i> 29 Nov 97 - 11 Dec 97, 2 Jan 98 - 15 Mar 98, 15 Apr 98 - 5 May 98). LCHs provided logistic support on rotation. |
| 1 Dec 97 | 2 Dec 97 | | II | c | 817 Squadron | Aircraft from all three services in use across NSW during a bushfire emergency. Sea Kings were used for firespotting, and to deliver specialist firefighting crews in Morton National Park. |
| 1998 | | Deployments | | | Various RAN units | Regional deployment program continued. |
| 1998 | | National Surveillance | | | Patrol Boat Force | Maritime surveillance of the Australian EEZ was conducted. A total of 366 FFV boardings and 55 apprehensions were made during this period. The total number of SIEVs arriving in Australia for this period was 39. The number of SUNCs detained at sea was 916. |
| 1998 | | Geographic and Hydrographic Support | | | Hydrographic Survey Force | 5376 nm ² surveyed in Northern QLD, NT, Arnhem Land and NSW. |

| 1998 | Exercises | | | Various RAN units | Continuation of ADF, regional and international exercises, including HUNTER 98 designed to develop and evaluate RAN/RSN interoperability in mine warfare operations. |
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| 21 Feb 98 | STANHOPE | II | d | Newcastle, Westralia | Honduran registered fishing vessel <i>Big Star</i> apprehended while fishing within the HIMI EEZ. 145 tonnes of patagonian toothfish found on board. Greenpeace applauded the seizure as 'a strong signal to the rest of the world that Australia would defend stocks of the fish'. |
| 25 Feb 98 | | II | c | Wollongong | 11 crew members of the French cargo vessel <i>Laura</i> rescued after they abandoned ship in heavy seas 60 km north-east of Cape Wessel. |
| Apr 98 | 26 Aug 03 BELISI II | III | f | <i>Bandicoot, Betano, Broiga, Kanimbla, Labuan, Mermaid, Paluma, CDT 1, Balikpapan, Brunei, Tarakan, Tobruk, Wallaroo, Wewak</i> | ADF support to the Peace Monitoring Group in Bougainville by contributing to specialist medical, logistic, communications and transport capabilities. LCHs provided logistic support on rotation. |
| Apr 98 | | III | e | Newcastle | As part of a SEA deployment, Newcastle ship's company visited Hellfire Pass, Thailand to support Anzac Day celebrations attended by the Prime Minister. |

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| 15 Apr 98 | 29 Apr 98 | | III | f | <i>Tobruk</i> | Tobruk sailed for Awra Bay in Bougainville to resupply the TMG and hosted peace talks between the PNG Government and the Bougainville Revolutionary Army. |
| 23 Apr 98 | | | III | e | <i>Fremantle, Whyalla</i> | Participation in a cyclone relief operation to Tanna Island, Vanuatu, delivering much needed rice to local residents. |
| 17 May 98 | 27 May 98 | BRANCARD | III | f | <i>Adelaide, Canberra, Newcastle, Torrens</i> | RAN units placed on alert to evacuate Australian nationals during Indonesian civil disturbances. Also called Operation ROADSTER. |
| 29 May 98 | | | III | f | All RAN Units | The Australian Government announced that no military exercises or ship visits would be undertaken with either Pakistan or India after a series of nuclear tests on the Indian sub-continent. |
| 5 Jun 98 | | AUSINDO JAYA | III | e | Various RAN Units | ADF operation to deliver food and medical supplies to drought-affected areas of central Irian Jaya. |
| 11 Jun 98 | | | II | d | <i>Dubbo</i> | Interception of foreign vessel carrying ten people suspected of being illegal immigrants off the Kimberly coast. |
| 18 Jun 98 | | | II | c | <i>Darwin, Melbourne, Perth, Success</i> | Assistance provided in a search for a missing crewman from a helicopter which crashed into the sea off Kiribati. |

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| Jul 98 | | | II | d | Cessnock | Attempted apprehension of a FFV. Several warning shots were fired. Attempts to board the vessel failed and Cessnock pursued the vessel until instructed to return to the AFZ. Cessnock intercepted another two FFVs on the same patrol. |
| 29 Jul 98 | | | II | c | Newcastle | Ship's flight rescued six fishermen from their vessel after it had run aground on Middleton Reef north of Lord Howe Island. |
| Aug 98 | Ongoing | MISTRAL | II | d | Various RAN Units | Support to Australian sovereign rights and fisheries law enforcement in the Southern Ocean by supporting AFMA and ACS Ocean fisheries patrols. |
| Sep 98 | | | III | e | Adelaide, Brisbane, Hobart | South East Asian deployment supporting the Year of The Ocean festival which included a naval review by the President of Indonesia. |
| Dec 98 | | | II | c | Newcastle, Young Endeavour, 817 Squadron, 816 Squadron | Sydney-Hobart Yacht Race rescue operations. |
| Dec 98 | | AVIAN LINNET | II | d | Bendigo | A combined AFP, ACS, Coastwatch and ADF drug enforcement operation conducted off the central coast of NSW. |

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| 1999 | | Deployments | | | Various RAN Units | Regional deployment program continued. Included visit to Vietnam by <i>Arunta</i> and <i>Perth</i> to mark the beginning of defence cooperation. |
| 1999 | | National Surveillance | | | Patrol Boat Force | FCPBs were heavily involved in the monitoring and interception of SIEVs and SUNCs. FFV apprehensions remained at moderate levels, however the dramatic increase in SUNCs arrivals continued. A total of 927 SUNCs were transported during the quarter Oct - Dec 99. |
| 1999 | | Geographic and Hydrographic Support | | | Hydrographic Survey Force | 3756 nm ² surveyed in the Great Barrier Reef, NSW, NT and in Torres Strait. |
| 1999 | | Exercises | | | Various RAN units | The RAN continued to conduct ADF, regional and international exercises, including STARDEX 99 designed to develop operational procedures and tactics with FPDA units in a joint/combined maritime exercise. |
| 1999 | | | III | e | <i>Mermaid, Paluma</i> | While charting a new shipping channel from the Coral Sea to the Solomon Sea a plea for help received from a village of the very remote Brumer Island in the China Strait. Some 800 litres of water transported to the village. |

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| Mar 99 | | | | II | d | Geelong, Gladstone, Ipswich | The SIEV Hwang Tong was shadowed before developing a steering defect, Ipswich rendered assistance and the vessel was taken under tow. |
| 22 Mar 99 | 28 Mar 99 | CHANDLER | | II | c | Various RAN units | ADF assistance to WA during Cyclone Vance. Also known as SHOCKER. |
| 24 Mar 99 | | | | II | c | Warrnabool, 816 Squadron, 817 Squadron | Warrnabool rescued the two crew members of the yacht Green Hornet in response to a MARSAR. |
| 23 Apr 99 | | BANTAM | | II | c | Personnel | ADF assistance to the NSW Department of Agriculture in controlling the outbreak of Newcastle Disease in poultry farms in the Mangrove Mountain area of NSW. Personnel from <i>Kanibla</i> , <i>Manoora</i> and from naval establishments in Sydney involved. |
| 24 May 99 | 28 May 99 | GRAVITATE | | II | d | Townsville | Customs operation involving a sweep for illegal activities within the Thursday Island group. |
| May 99 | Aug 99 | DAMASK IX | | II | d | Melbourne | Participation with the Multinational Maritime Interception Force in support of UNSCR sanctions against Iraq. (30 May 99 - 13 Aug 99) |
| Jun 99 | | | | II | c | Ipswich | MARSAR incident involving a vessel which had grounded on a reef north of Cairns. The crew was transported to Cooktown. |

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| Aug 99 | Sep 99 | SPITFIRE | III | f | Bunbury, Dubbo, Geraldton, Gladstone | In response to post independence violence in East Timor, an evacuation plan for Australian and approved foreign nationals was developed. |
| Aug 99 | Nov 99 | STABILISE/ WARDEN | III | f | Various RAN units | UN sanctioned peace enforcement operation in East Timor. |
| Aug 99 | Feb 00 | STABILISE/ WARDEN | I | b | Baikpapan, Betano, Brunei, Darwin, Jervis Bay (II), Labuan, Melbourne, Newcastle, Sydney, Tarakan, Tobruk, CDT 1, CDT 4, LADS Unit, HODSU | UN sanctioned peace enforcement operation in East Timor. |
| Sep 99 | 12 Nov 01 | CONCORD | II | d | Various RAN units | Logistic support for ADF operations in East Timor. Residual support tasks were subsumed into ongoing tasking for Operation TANAGER and, subsequently, Operation CITADEL. |
| Nov 99 | | | II | c | 723 Squadron | The bodies of four missing snowboarders were discovered near Mount Kosciusko and assistance with recovery provided to NSW police. |
| Nov 99 | Oct 00 | BEL ISI II | III | f | Bandicoot | Deployment to Bougainville under a dual crew arrangement with crews rotated in theatre. |
| 30 Nov 99 | | | II | d | Gladstone | Warning shots fired during FFV apprehension. The vessel was boarded and escorted to Darwin. |

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| 2000 | | Deployments | | | | Regional deployment program continued. |
| 2000 | | National Surveillance | | | Patrol Boat Force | 1688 patrol boat days completed. 243 FFV boardings were conducted with 76 apprehensions. 54 SIEVs were apprehended. |
| 2000 | | Geographic and Hydrographic Support | | | Hydrographic Survey Force | 3651 nm ² surveyed in Northern QLD, the Torres Strait, Bougainville, East Timor, WA, SA and NSW. |
| 2000 | | Exercises | | | Various RAN units | The RAN continued to conduct ADF, regional and international exercises, including SHORTSCOPE 00 designed to enhance interoperability between Australian and US personnel through an MCMV training exercise. |
| 2000 | 12 Nov 01 | MENCARI | II | c | Various RAN Units | Patrol of the Timor Gap Zone of Cooperation. |
| Jan 00 | Dec 01 | CENTENARY | IV | | Adelaide, Bendigo, Kanimbla, Melville, | ADF operation providing support to the Centenary of Federation celebrations. |
| Feb 00 | May 02 | TANAGER | II | d | Balikpapan, Benalla, Betano, Brunei, Jervis Bay (II), Labuan, Manoora, Mermaid, Paluma, Shepparton, Wewak | ADF contribution to UNTAET. LCHs provided maritime support in East Timor, focusing on the carriage of logistic support stores, fuel and vehicles between Dili, Suai and Oecussi. Jervis Bay provided a regular service Darwin-Dili-Darwin. |

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| Apr 00 | | | II | d | Geraldton | 61 suspected illegal immigrants saved from a sinking Indonesian fishing boat in the Indian Ocean. |
| May 00 | Aug 00 | PLUMBOB | III | f | Tobruk | ADF contribution to evacuation of foreign nationals in the Solomon Islands. (29 May 00 - 13 Jun 00, 21 Jun 00 - 12 Aug 00) |
| Jul 00 | Aug 00 | HIGHWAY | III | e | Various RAN units | Assistance with the repatriation of PNG Defence Force personnel and families. |
| Sep 00 | Oct 00 | DORSAL/ ORBIT | III | f | Newcastle, Sydney | ADF support to the peace negotiation process in the Solomon Islands. (Newcastle 23 Sep 00 - 11 Oct 00, followed by Sydney 1 Oct 00 - 28 Oct 00). |
| Sep 00 | Oct 00 | BIG EYE II | II | c | Various RAN units | Surveillance support provided to Federated States of Micronesia. |
| Oct 00 | Nov 00 | GOLD | II | c | Various RAN units | ADF support for 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Sydney. |

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| Nov 00 | Oct 01 | TREK | III | f | Canberra, Darwin, Kanimbla, Manoora, Newcastle, Tobruk, Melbourne | Promotion of stability in the Solomon Islands by supporting the International Peace Monitoring Team deployed in support of the Cease-Fire Agreement. (Canberra 13 Sep 01 - 24 Oct 01, Darwin 24 Apr 01 - 29 Jun 01, Kanimbla 2 Jun 01 - 8 Aug 01, Manoora 8 Nov 00 - 20 Dec 00, Manoora 6 Mar 01 - 8 Jun 01, Melbourne 26 Jul 01 - 26 Sep 01, Newcastle 8 Feb 01 - 20 Mar 01, Tobruk 7 Dec 00 - 15 Feb 01). |
| 2001 | | Deployments | | | Various RAN Units | Deployments continued to South Asia, North Asia and the South West Pacific. |
| 2001 | | National Surveillance | | | Various RAN Units | 1688 patrol days. 231 FFVs and 12 SIEVs boarded, 67 of the FFVs apprehended and all of the SIEVs. A total of 1501 SUNCs transported. |
| 2001 | | Geographic and Hydrographic Support | | | Hydrographic Survey Force | 3416 nm ² surveyed off Western Australia, East Timor, North QLD, the Torres Strait, the Capricorn Group, Arnhem Land, Melville Island and Ashmore Reef. |
| 2001 | | Exercises | | | Various RAN units | The RAN continued to conduct ADF, regional and international exercises, including TANDEM THRUST 01 - a joint Australian, Canadian and US exercise in the Shoalwater Bay Training Area. |

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| Jan 01 | Jun 01 | MAXWELL | II | d | Various RAN Units | Enforcement of Australian sovereignty in the HIMI EEZ. |
| 18 Feb 01 | 24 Feb 01 | ABSEIL | III | f | Personnel | ADF contribution to supporting talks between the PNG Government and Bougainville delegates as part of the ongoing peace process in Bougainville. |
| Feb 01 | | | III | e | <i>Darwin</i> | Visit to India to participate in the Indian Naval Review at Mumbai. |
| Mar 01 | | | II | c | 816 Squadron, 817 Squadron | Navy led effort to evacuate and resupply residents of the Kempsey region in NSW after severe flooding. |
| Apr 01 | | TEEBONE | II | d | Personnel | Operation conducted with the AFMA and South African Navy in order to effect a prosecution within Australia of the FFV <i>South Tomi</i> and its crew. The arrest took place following a 2000 nm hot pursuit across the Southern Ocean. |
| Apr 01 | Jun 01 | | III | e | <i>Kanimbla</i> | Deployment to Vanuatu for disaster relief operations following a volcanic eruption on the island of Lopevi. |
| Apr 01 | | | III | e | <i>Arunta, Newcastle, Success</i> | Visit to Pusan, South Korea to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of the Korean War. |
| Jun 01 | | | III | e | <i>Hawkesbury, Huon</i> | Visit to Surabaya. First RAN visit to a major Indonesian port since ADF operations began in East Timor. |

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| Jul 01 | | | II | c | Huon | Assistance provided to the crew of the New Zealand yacht <i>Airmis</i> which had run aground on Chesterfield Reef in the Coral Sea. |
| Jul 01 | Nov 01 | DAMASK (X) | II | d | Anzac | Contribution to the Multinational Maritime Interception Force in support of UN sanctions against Iraq. Operation DAMASK officially ceased 23 June 2004, although already subsumed into Operation SLIPPER and subsequently Operation CATALYST. |
| Aug 01 | Jun 04 | GABERDINE | II | d | Various RAN Units | Support to DIMIA to manage any increase in unauthorised boat arrivals. |
| Aug 01 | Oct 01 | GUARDIAN | II | c | Personnel | Support to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting held in Brisbane 6 - 9 October 2001. |
| Aug 01 | Ongoing | CELESTA | II | d | Various RAN Units | Conduct of surface fisheries patrols in the HIMI EEZ. |
| Aug 01 | 14 Mar 02 | RELEX I | II | d | Various RAN Units | Air and surface patrols across Australia's northern approaches to detect, deter and deny access to Australia by unauthorised boat arrivals. |
| 17 Aug 01 | | | II | c | Melbourne | Seahawk rescued nineteen survivors from a sunken vessel off the Solomon Islands. |

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| Oct 01 | Mar 02 | DAMASK / SLIPPER | I | b | Sydney | Support to the US led Operation ENDURING FREEDOM, the International Coalition Against Terrorism. Also contribution to the Multinational Maritime Interception Force in support of UN sanctions against Iraq. (9 Nov 01 - 23 Feb 02) |
| Nov 01 | Mar 02 | SLIPPER | I | b | Adelaide, Kanimbia | Support to the US led Operation ENDURING FREEDOM, the International Coalition Against Terrorism. Also contribution to the Multinational Maritime Interception Force in support of UN sanctions against Iraq. (2 Dec 01 - 4 Mar 02) |
| Nov 01 | Feb 02 | | II | c | 723, 817, 816 Squadrons, Naval Air Station NOWRA | Support to the NSW Christmas bushfire emergency. Also provided support during the ACT and VIC bushfires. |
| 2002 | | Deployments | | | Various RAN Units | Regional deployments continued, however, the high level of operational activity impacted on the number conducted. |
| 2002 | | National Surveillance | | | Patrol Boat Force | 111 boats were intercepted in Australian waters during 2002. 2103 patrol boat days were achieved in support of Operations RELEX I and II and CRANBERRY. |

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| 2002 | Geographic and Hydrographic Support | | | Hydrographic Survey Force | 4046 nm ² surveyed in the the Torres Strait, Bass Strait, Arnhem Land, North QLD, approaches to Gladstone, Ava Point, PNG, and the Sydney area. <i>Leeuwin</i> and <i>Melville</i> were committed to Operation RELEX II on a rotational basis throughout 2002 and there was therefore a shortfall of 42 per cent in output on planned survey commitments. |
| 2002 | Exercises | | | Various RAN units | The RAN continued to conduct ADF, regional and international exercises, but the high operational tempo, impacted on the number conducted. Of 29 exercises planned, only ten were completed with full participation, nine were completed with reduced participation and eight were cancelled. |
| 2002 | BOOMERANG | III | e | | RAN global deployment. Cancelled due to high operational tempo. |
| Jan 02 | SUTTON | II | d | Canberra, Westralia | Enforcement of Australian sovereign rights and fisheries law in the HIMI EEZ. |

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| Feb 02 | Jul 02 | SLIPPER | I | b | Canberra, Manoora, Newcastle | ADF contribution to the International Coalition Against Terrorism. Also contribution to the Multinational Maritime Interception Force in support of UN sanctions against Iraq. (Canberra 14 Mar 02 - 8 Jul 02, Manoora 28 Feb 02 - 24 Jun 02, Newcastle 8 Feb 02 - 24 Jun 02) |
| Mar 02 | Ongoing | RELEX II | II | d | Various RAN Units | Conduct of air and surface patrols across Australia's northern approaches to deter unauthorised boat arrivals. |
| Jun 02 | Nov 02 | SLIPPER | I | b | Melbourne, Arunta | ADF contribution to the International Coalition Against Terrorism. (Melbourne 24 Jun 02 - 8 Nov 02, Arunta 8 Jul 02 - 20 Nov 02) |
| Jul 02 | | | II | c | CDT 1 | ADF assistance in the recovery to Australia of HMS Nottingham which ran aground off Lord Howe Island. |
| Oct 02 | May 03 | SLIPPER | I | b | Anzac, Darwin | ADF contribution to the International Coalition Against Terrorism. Also contribution to the Multinational Maritime Interception Force in support of UN sanctions against Iraq. (Anzac 8 Nov 02 - 27 Apr 03, Darwin 10 Nov 02 - 26 Apr 03) |
| Oct 02 | Feb 03 | | II | c | Various RAN Units | Emergency assistance provided to civil firefighting for bushfires in the ACT, VIC and NSW. |

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| 2003 | | | | | Regional deployment program continued. |
| 2003 | | National Surveillance | | Patrol Boat Force | Patrol boat effort remained primarily focused on Operation RELEX II, with 1192 days expended on maritime surveillance/response of Australia's northern approaches, and 781 days achieved for the civil surveillance program. |
| 2003 | | Geographic and Hydrographic Support | | Hydrographic Survey Force | 5115 nm ² surveyed in the approaches to Gladstone, North QLD, the Torres Strait, southern NSW, Port Essington, SA and Mawson Station, Antarctica. Due to the inclusion of some hydrographic units in border protection, provision of capability for the national hydrographic survey task was reduced by 35 per cent from planned levels. |
| 2003 | | Exercises | | Various RAN units | The RAN continued to conduct ADF, regional and international exercises, including PARADISE 03 a patrol boat exercise with the PNGDF. |
| Jan 03 | Mar 03 | BASTILLE | III | Anzac, Darwin, Kanimbla | ADF contribution in support of US led build up to remove the threat of Iraqi weapons of mass destruction. |

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| Feb 03 | Jun 03 | SLIPPER | I | b | Kanimbla | ADF contribution to the International Coalition Against Terrorism. Also contribution to the Multinational Maritime Interception Force in support of UN sanctions against Iraq. (13 Feb 03 - 14 Jun 03) |
| Mar 03 | 22 Jul 03 | FALCONER | I | b | Anzac, Darwin, Kanimbla, CDT 3 | ADF support to US led coalition operations to eliminate Iraqi weapons of mass destruction. <i>Kanimbla</i> acted as a command and control platform during waterway clearance operations in the North Arabian Gulf. <i>Anzac</i> provided naval gunfire support during a Royal Marine assault on the Al Faw Peninsula. <i>Darwin</i> provided escort services. CDT 3 assisted with EOD tasks including the opening of the Iraqi port of Umm Qasar. |
| 14 Apr 03 | 17 Apr 03 | BAGHDAD ASSIST | III | e | Kanimbla | Provision of medical stores to Baghdad. |
| 16 Apr 03 | 20 Apr 03 | TARTAN | II | d | Stuart, 817 Squadron | Support to Coastwatch to track, intercept, board and apprehend the Korean-flagged merchant vessel <i>Pong Su</i> , the subject of a combined AFP and ACS Operation. |
| May 03 | Aug 03 | FALCONER | I | b | Sydney | ADF contribution to the coalition to disarm Iraq. Operation transitioned to Operation CATALYST on 24 Jul 03 (29 Apr 03 - 2 Aug 03). |

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| May 03 | Jun 03 | FALCONER | I | b | Manoora | Australia's contribution to the coalition to disarm Iraq. Manoora provided transport services for forces returning to Australia (3 Jun 03 - 16 Jun 03). |
| May 03 | | | II | d | Cessnock, Geraldton | A joint Customs, Defence and Fisheries operation in Australia's northern waters, during which 521 FFVs were intercepted, more than in any year since 1994. |
| May 03 | | | III | e | Balikpapan | Delivery of medical and sporting equipment to the Solomon Islands. |
| 4 Jun 03 | | | II | c | Newcastle | Rescue off the coast of WA of two Britons attempting to row across the Indian Ocean. One required medical attention. |
| 7 Jun 03 | | | II | c | Manoora | Rescue of eight Iraqi fisherman from their sinking boat in the central Persian Gulf. |
| 10 Jun 03 | | | II | c | Mermaid, Paluma | Food, water and petrol provided to three groups (seven people) stranded on Lady Musgrave Island due to poor weather. |
| 23 Jun 03 | 29 Jun 03 | | II | c | Manoora | In conjunction with MV <i>Claudia</i> , medical assistance provided to a seriously ill crew member on FV <i>Golden Sun</i> off the coast of WA. |
| Jul 03 | | | II | c | Gascoyne | Fuel provided to a disabled fishing boat off the Malay Peninsula. |

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| Jul 03 | Dec 03 | CATALYST | III | f | Newcastle | ADF contribution to efforts to assist with the stabilisation and rehabilitation of Iraq. <i>Newcastle</i> completed 396 boardings while in the Gulf. (5 Aug 03 - 17 Nov 03) |
| Jul 03 | Sep 03 | ANODE | III | e | <i>Hawkesbury, Labuan, Wewak, Whyalla</i> | The ADF contribution to RAMSI - Operation HELPEM FREN. Ships provided humanitarian aid to isolated villages, conducted maritime surveillance and interdiction (boardings), maritime transport, search and rescues, MEDEVACS, explosive ordnance disposal, beach landings, airfield surveys and other support tasks. (<i>Hawkesbury</i> 7 Aug 03 - Sep 03, <i>Labuan</i> 24 Jul 03 - 3 Sep 03, <i>Wewak</i> 24 Jul 03 - 03 Sep 03, <i>Whyalla</i> 21 Jul 03 - 1 Sep 03) |
| Jul 03 | Oct 03 | ANODE | | | <i>Manoora</i> | The ADF contribution to RAMSI. <i>Manoora</i> provided a platform for various meetings, as well as transport and logistic support and a medical support base. (23 Jul 03 - 29 Oct 03) |
| Jul 03 | | RELEX II | II | d | <i>Canberra</i> | Interception of SIEV 13. The first SIEV intercepted since Dec 01. |
| Aug 03 | | | II | c | <i>Hawkesbury</i> | Six men rescued from heavy seas in the waters off Ghizo Harbour in the Solomon Islands. |

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| Aug 03 | Oct 03 | GEMSBOOK | II | d | Personnel | ADF support to Coastwatch and AFMA-led, and Republic of South Africa assisted, apprehension of the FFV <i>Viasa 1</i> in the Southern Ocean. The Navy provided a steaming party to return the vessel to Australia. |
| Aug 03 | Oct 03 | PLAN HARDTOP | III | e | Various RAN Units | Planned ADF support for the rescue and return of astronauts and the return of space objects in the event of an emergency landing after the launch of China's first manned spaceflight. |
| Sep 03 | Oct 03 | ANODE | III | e | <i>Baikpapan, Ipswich, Tarakan</i> | The ADF contribution to RAMSI. (<i>Baikpapan</i> 3 Sep 03 - 3 Oct 03, <i>Tarakan</i> 3 Sep 03 - 3 Oct 03) |
| Sep 03 | Nov 03 | ANODE | III | e | <i>Diamantina</i> | The ADF contribution to RAMSI. |
| Sep 03 | | PACIFIC PROTECTOR | II | d | <i>Melbourne, Success</i> | The first in a series of maritime, air and land interdiction training exercises agreed to by members of the Proliferation Security Initiative took place in the Coral Sea. The aim of the exercise was to practice intercepting, boarding and searching vessels suspected of illegal trafficking in weapons of mass destruction, their delivery systems and related materials. |
| Sep 03 | | | III | e | <i>Manoora</i> | Sea King recovered a downed RNZAF Iroquois on the western side of Guadalcanal. |
| Sep 03 | Nov 03 | SCRUMMAGE | II | c | Personnel | ADF support to the Rugby World Cup. RAN provided drivers and general duties personnel. |
| Sep 03 | Ongoing | ACOLYTE | II | c | Personnel | Defence support to the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games. |

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| Oct 03 | | | II | c | Newcastle | Four Iraqi crewmen saved after their tug sank in the northern Persian Gulf. |
| 10 Sep 03 | 11 Sep 03 | | II | d | Warrnambool | Unsuccessful search conducted for the missing master of an Indonesian fishing vessel in the Gulf of Carpentaria. |
| Oct 03 | | MIATA | II | c | Various RAN Units | ADF support to the visit to Australia by US President George W. Bush. Included support from 723 Squadron. |
| Oct 03 | | FOREST | III | e | Various RAN Units | Planned ADF support to evacuation operation from Bali in the event that it was required on the commemoration of the first anniversary of the Bali bombings on 12 October. |
| Oct 03 | | FLUENT | II | c | Various RAN Units | ADF support to the visit to Australia by the President of the People's Republic of China, Hu Jintao. |
| Oct 03 | | | III | e | Arunta, Tobruk | Visited Vietnam to mark 30 years of diplomatic relations between Australia and Vietnam. Arunta also represented Australia at the 2003 Langkawi International Military and Aerospace Exhibition, Malaysia. |
| Oct 03 | Nov 03 | ANODE | III | e | Betano, Brunei, Wollongong | The ADF contribution to RAMSI. (Betano 2 Oct 03 - 2 Nov 03, Brunei 3 Oct 03 - 16 Nov 03, Wollongong 3 Oct 03 - Nov 03) |

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| Oct 03 | Apr 04 | CATALYST | III | f | Melbourne | ADF contribution to the rehabilitation of Iraq. Employed as part of the Multi-National Coalition Force in the Northern Arabian Gulf to interdict any vessels carrying illegal cargo and to protect vital infrastructure in the region. During this deployment <i>Melbourne</i> became the first RAN ship to visit the Kuwait Naval Base, as well as the largest warship to berth alongside in the port. (27 Oct 03 - 1 Apr 04) |
| 5 Nov 03 | | | II | d | Fremantle, Geelong, Launceston, Warrnambool | SIEV 14 with 18 SUNCs intercepted. The occupants were taken aboard <i>Geelong</i> for questioning and the vessel was escorted back to Indonesian territorial waters. |
| Nov 03 | | SHARKFIN | II | d | Dubbo | Boarding and apprehension of five Indonesian Type III vessels. |
| Nov 03 | Dec 03 | ANODE | III | e | Gladstone, Wewak | The ADF contribution to RAMSI. (Wewak 15 Nov 03 - 15 Dec 03) |
| Dec 03 | | | III | e | Wewak | Transport of some 90 tonnes of relief supplies to the remote islands of Tikopia and Anuta following Cyclone Gina. |

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| 28 Dec 03 | | | II | c | Cessnock | Rescue of 13 crew from a Taiwanese longliner grounded on a reef north of Honiara. |
| Dec 03 | Jan 04 | ANODE | III | e | Cessnock, Tarakan | The ADF contribution to RAMSI. (Tarakan 15 Dec 03 - 14 Jan 04) |
| Dec 03 | | | II | c | 817 Squadron | Firefighting assistance provided when bush fires threatened HMAS Creswell. |
| 2004 | | Deployments | | | Various RAN Units | Regional deployment program continued. |
| 2004 | | National Surveillance | | | Patrol Boat Force | 1814 patrol boat days were achieved, 549 in support of civil surveillance and 1265 in support of Operation RELEX II. |
| 2004 | | Geographic and Hydrographic Support | | | Hydrographic Survey Force | 5300 nm ² surveyed in the approaches to Gladstone and Darwin, Kimberly Region, Bass Strait and Tasmania, Arnhem Land, Torres Strait, Coral Sea, Inner Great Barrier Reef and two areas of PNG. In addition HODSU deployed to Operation ANODE in support of maritime operations in the Solomon Islands. |
| 2004 | | Exercises | | | Various RAN units | The RAN continued to conduct ADF, regional and international exercises. Including FLYING FISH 03 to exercise assigned FPDA forces. |

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| Jan 04 | | | II | c | Geraldton | Assistance provided to a yacht in distress in the Beagle Gulf. Conducted a MEDEVAC for an ill child in the Solomon Islands. |
| Jan 04 | 30 Sep 04 | | III | e | Personnel | Initial training provided to the new Iraqi Coastal Defence Force. |
| Jan 04 | Feb 04 | ANODE | III | e | Baikpapan, Geraldton | ADF contribution to RAMSI. <i>Baikpapan</i> assisted with police escort duties and the resupply of outposts, as well as visiting outlying villages. <i>Baikpapan</i> also took on three hydrographers during the deployment to conduct surveys of some of the Solomon Islands least surveyed areas. (<i>Baikpapan</i> 14 Jan 04 - 15 Feb 04) |
| Jan 04 | | NIUE ASSIST | III | e | Various RAN units | Provision of assistance to the government of Niue in the aftermath of tropical Cyclone Heta. |

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| Jan 04 | Feb 04 | CELESTA | II | d | Success, Warramunga | Fishing vessel <i>Maya V</i> apprehended in the Southern Ocean on 23 Jan 04. <i>Warramunga</i> escorted <i>Maya V</i> back to Fremantle. Success assisted in the operation, providing refuelling support and recovering fishing buoys off Heard Island. Minister for Fisheries Ian Macdonald said: 'This joint Defence force-AFMA apprehension marks another blow to illegal fishers and proves once again that Australia has the capability to act decisively in all sorts of locations and conditions to protect our fisheries resources and territorial waters.' |
| 21 Jan 04 | | | II | d | Gladstone | Shots fired across bow during the pursuit and interception of a Thai fishing vessel. The ship was escorted to Darwin. |
| Feb 04 | Mar 04 | ANODE | III | e | Betano, Huon | The ADF contribution to RAMSI. (Betano 18 Feb 04 - 21 Mar 04) |
| Mar 04 | | | II | c | CDT 1 | Destruction of WWII mine at Port Stephens. |
| 9 Mar 04 | | | II | c | Warramunga | Boarding party undertook a dangerous night time operation to transfer a critically ill passenger from a cruise liner to shore off Christmas Island. |

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| 19 Mar 04 | | | II | c | Melville | Unsuccessful search for a passenger who had gone overboard from the <i>Spirit of Tasmania II</i> in Bass Strait. |
| Mar 04 | Aug 04 | CATALYST | III | f | Stuart | ADF contribution to the rehabilitation of Iraq. (3 Apr 04 - 13 Aug 04) |
| Mar 04 | Oct 04 | CATALYST | III | e | Personnel | Deployment of the Iraqi Coastal Defence Training Team to Umm Qasr. |
| Mar 04 | May 04 | ANODE | III | e | Wewak, Yarra | The ADF contribution to RAMSI. (Wewak 18 Mar 04 - 17 Apr 04) (Yarra 19 Mar 04 - 20 May 04) |
| 24 Apr 04 | 25 Apr 04 | | II | c | Stuart | Seahawk and RHIB with medics on board aided seven US sailors after a sea-borne attack on an off-shore oil terminal in the northern Persian Gulf. Three of the sailors were killed during the attacks. |
| Apr 04 | | | II | c | Dubbo, Wollongong | Five Indonesian fishermen were rescued and the boat towed back to Broome after it was damaged by Cyclone Fay and found drifting west of Darwin. |
| Apr 04 | May 04 | ANODE | II | c | Labuan | ADF contribution to RAMSI. (18 Mar 04 - 2 May 04) |

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| 4 May 05 | | | II | c | Bunbury, Warrnambool | Assisted with a search for a vessel in distress off Savaii Island, Western Samoa. |
| 20 May 04 | | | II | c | Melville | Rescued five people from their sinking vessel south of Cairns. |
| 29 May 04 | | | II | c | Gawler | Around the world sailor rescued from rough seas just north of Darwin. |
| May 04 | | Jun 04 | III | e | Geelong, Tarakan | ADF contribution to RAMSI. (20 May 04 - 20 Jun 04) |
| May 04 | | | II | c | Yarra | Aided a small yacht battling heavy seas off Port Stephens. |
| May 04 | | | II | d | Whyalla | Nine illegal FFVs caught in waters off the NT during a five day blitz by Customs, Coastwatch, the ADF and the AFMA. |
| 17 Jun 04 | | 18 Jun 04 | II | c | Newcastle | Three Danish sailors rescued near Fiji. A New Zealand P3K Orion surveillance aircraft and a Fijian naval ship also assisted. |
| Jun 04 | | | II | c | Gascoyne | Rescued a disabled fishing boat with three men on board. The vessel was towed to safety. |

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| Jun 04 | Aug 04 | ANODE | III | e | Brunei, Gascoyne, Tarakan | ADF support to RAMSI. (Brunei 19 Jul 04 - 24 Jul 04) (Gascoyne 18 Jun 04 - 2 Aug 04) (Tarakan 30 Jul 04 - 1 Aug 04) |
| Jun 04 | | | II | c | Fremantle | Medical assistance provided to a crewmember from a fishing vessel found sheltering from a gale off a deserted coral atoll. |
| Jun 04 | | | II | c | Leeuwin | Completed a two-month survey of shipping routes around Flinders Island, the first time the waters had been charted in a half a century. |
| Jun 04 | | | II | c | Dubbo | Rescued the skipper of a vessel from a life raft more than 150 nm off the West Australian Coast after a dispute with the owner. |
| Jun 04 | | | II | c | Norman | Assistance provided to Tasmanian Police to recover a six-metre cruiser which sank in the Derwent River. |
| Jul 04 | | NEPTUNE | II | c | Stirling | Joint emergency management exercise between Federal and State agencies with the aim of improving inter-agency cooperation. |

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| Jul 04 | Jan 05 | CATALYST | III | f | Adelaide | ADF contribution to stabilisation and recovery operations in Iraq. (13 Jul 04 - 12 Jan 05) |
| Aug 04 | Sep 04 | ANODE | III | e | <i>Diamantina</i> | ADF support to RAMSI. (2 Aug 04 - 12 Sep 04) |
| Sep 04 | | | II | c | Anzac | Rescue of 15 men from a sinking Indonesian cargo vessel 200 nm south east of Singapore. |
| Sep 04 | Nov 04 | ANODE | III | e | <i>Fremantle</i> | Last ship committed to Operations ANODE and HELPEM FREN. (11 Sep 04 - 26 Oct 04) |
| Oct 04 | 14 Oct 04 | | III | e | Anzac | Search and rescue exercise completed with the PLAN ship <i>Harbin</i> . The first time the two forces had worked together. |
| 15 Oct 04 | 19 Oct 04 | | III | e | <i>Arunta</i> | Visit to Vladivostok to support MCAUST during inter-navy talks, conduct a goodwill visit and to further Australia's foreign relations in the region. |
| 15 Nov 04 | Nov 04 | | III | e | CDT 1 | Mission to destroy or remove thousands of pieces of WWII ordnance on the island of Tarawa in Kiribati. |
| 6 Nov 04 | | | II | c | <i>Betano</i> | Building material and water tanks landed at the indigenous homeland community town of Gawa in the Northern Territory. |

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| 19 Nov 04 | | | II | c | 816 Squadron | Rescue of a critically injured miner in WA. |
| Jan 05 | Jun 05 | CATALYST | III | f | Darwin | ADF contribution to stabilisation and recovery operations in Iraq. (12 Jan 05 - Jun 05) |
| 30 Dec 04 | 26 Mar 05 | SUMATRA ASSIST | III | e | Kanimbla / personnel | ADF contribution to provide assistance to the Indian Ocean/South East Asian region in the aftermath of the earthquake/tsunami on 26 Dec 04. <i>Kanimbla</i> arrived at Singapore on 27 Mar 05. |
| 29 Mar 05 | 13 Apr 05 | SUMATRA ASSIST Phase II | III | e | <i>Kanimbla</i> | Resumption of disaster relief and humanitarian aid after a severe earthquake and tsunami off the Sumatran coast on 28 Mar 05. |