

HIB Number: 000914  
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Subject: HMAS HUON - ALLEGED ASSAULT  
Comment:  
Action Area CN

**LIMITED DISTRIBUTION - NOT TO BE FORWARDED**  
**SENSITIVITY:** Low. Alleged assault may have potential to damage Navy reputation should the matter become open to media reporting.

**KEY ISSUES:**

- The two Mine Hunter Coastal vessels, HMA Ships *Huon* and *Yarra* conducted a scheduled port visit alongside Sembawang, Singapore from 02-06 November 2011.
- A female [REDACTED] sailor from *Huon* has made a formal complaint alleging she was assaulted by a male [REDACTED] sailor from *Yarra*.
- The two [REDACTED] sailors from separate commands were in a declared informal relationship.
- Both sailors are being provided divisional support and have remained onboard their respective ships for return passage to Australia.
- A Notifiable Incident has been raised and disciplinary investigation commenced to inform further actions.

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**Date issued:** 6 Nov 2011

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**BACKGROUND: ACTIONS TO DATE**

During the early hours of 6 November 2011, an alleged assault was reported to the Naval Police Coxswain onboard HMAS *Yarra* which was conducting a port visit in Singapore in company with HMAS *Huon*. The alleged assault had taken place early in the port visit (2-6 November 2011) and was reported by a third party serving onboard *Yarra*. The alleged assault involved a male [REDACTED] sailor from *Yarra* against a female [REDACTED] sailor in *Huon*. The assault is believed to be of an indecent nature. The two sailors are believed to be in a relationship.

The complainant has since made a formal complaint to her Commanding Officer that an assault had taken place. A disciplinary investigation has commenced, and a Notifiable incident has been raised to the Australian Defence Force Investigative Service through Directorate of Navy Policing and Security.

Both ships have since sailed from Singapore enroute to Darwin.

## TALKING POINTS

- **A female Royal Australian Navy member from HMAS *Huon* was allegedly assaulted by a male sailor from HMAS *Yarra* while conducting a scheduled port visit to Singapore.**
- **The sailors are believed to be in a relationship.**
- **As the matter is subject to a disciplinary investigation, it would be inappropriate to comment any further.**
- **Both sailors are receiving appropriate divisional support.**

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