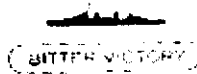


ANNEX A (iii)

- SAFETY -



"BITTER VICTORY"
AUTHOR
WES OLSON

BOATS AND LIFESAVING EQUIPMENT

As completed, *Sydney* was equipped with the following boats and Carley floats:

BOATS		
NUMBER	TYPE	LIFESAVING CAPACITY
1	36-FOOT MOTOR AND PULLING PINNACE	76
2	35-FOOT MOTOR BOAT	2 X 46
2	32-FOOT CUTTER	2 X 59
1	30-FOOT GIG	26
2	27-FOOT WHALER	2 X 27
1	16-FOOT SKIFF DINGHY	14

CARLEY FLOATS		
NUMBER	TYPE	LIFESAVING CAPACITY
2	PATTERN NO. 17	2 X 45
2	PATTERN NO. 18	2 X 67
2	PATTERN NO. 20	2 X 20
TOTAL LIFESAVING CAPACITY		644*

* Documents dating from 1935 indicate that the 16-foot Skiff was replaced with a 16-foot Vosper motor boat (jolly boat). The relevant Admiralty seamanship manuals indicate that the 36-foot motor boat could only accommodate seven people, thus reducing the total lifesaving capacity to 637.

As can be seen, there was ample lifesaving capacity for *Sydney's* peacetime complement of approximately 505 officers and men, and almost sufficient to accommodate its enlarged wartime complement.

The lifesaving capacity of the Carley boat, essentially a large oval-shaped life preserver, however, is somewhat misleading. The small Pattern No. 20 float, for example, was designed to provide life support for twenty men, although only twelve men could be accommodated inside the float. The remaining eight were expected to hang onto the top

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ANNEX A (iii)

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