



November 10, 2008

Dear Commander J.T. Rush:

Answers to your questions:

- (a) When I joined SYDNEY II I was issued with a watch card (standard for all ships establishments). Life jackets were of the cork filled fronts and backs sewn in pockets like a quilt.
- (b) I was personally issued with a blow up life vest. Sometime around 1948 on HMAS PERTH. It was not compulsory to write your name on the vest.
- (c) No recollection of markings.
- (d) No.
- (e) You carried your life vest with your anti gas respirator. The vest carried around your shoulders and waist with a tube valve for you to blow up and inflate the vest. Not inflated would be roughly 8 inches by 5 inches.
- (f) Identity discs were not issued in 1938. Identity disc were issued at ships Company HMAS PERTH WEST INDIES STATION in 1939. I have a Jamaican Silver Penny disc, done by Tiffy in Perth.
- (g) I) A brown type of composite material and the letters were stenciled in not printed.
II) Initials of name surname, rating, and official number.
III) Yes.
- (h) Yes.

Sincerely,

Allen Guthrie