

# THE WHITE TORNADO TIMES

Vol 1 Number 1

4 JULY 1975

SPECIAL FAMILIES EDITION

## CAPTAINS FOREWARD

It is a great pleasure for me to welcome you our readers to this the first AJAX Newsletter. As you will know we are about to set off on a world flag showing tour, I must not call it a cruise! I hope that some of you will be able to come and join us during our stay in Singapore or Australia. We are very lucky to be able to visit ports all over the world and to exercise with many Navies.

To many it will be their first chance to see the Far East, Australia and New Zealand and of course to cross the Pacific and visit American Ports. I am proud to command HMS AJAX and to lead the 8th Frigate Squadron. Let no-one think that we will do nothing but enjoy ourselves! We have a series of important trials to do and many exercises. We also have a lot of training to do onboard and it is my intention that everyone will have the chance to advance himself or at least prepare himself for advancement during our time away.

I look forward to what I am sure will be a memorable trip with a good mixture of hard work and play.

Captain D J Mackenzie  
Royal Navy

## CAPTAIN D J MACKENZIE

Commanding Officer of HMS AJAX and Captain (F) of the 8th F.S.

Captain Mackenzie was born in Perth, Scotland in 1929. He was married in 1965 and has two son's and a daughter. His home is now in Aldingbourne in West Sussex.

## NAVAL AND INTER-SERVICE APPOINTMENTS

1943	Royal Naval College	Entered the Royal Navy aged 13½ years
1947-48	HMS Birmingham	As Midshipman - East Indies Station
1950-52	Royal Naval Rhine Squadron	On completion of Sub-Lieutenant's course
1952-54	HMS Opossum	In the Far East and Korea
1954-56	HMS Barrosa	As destroyer Gunnery Officer
1956	HMS Brinkley	In Command
1958-60	HMS Hogue and Finisterre	As First Lieutenant. Promoted Lieutenant-Commander in 1959.
1961-63	FOST Staff, Portland	As Staff Officer Operations.
1963-65	HMS Hardy	In Command
1965	HMS Glamorgan	First Executive Officer. Promoted Commander
1968		Joint Services Staff Course
1968-70	FOST Staff, Portland	As Commander Sea Training
1970	HMS Lincoln	In Command
1970-71	HMS Hermione	In Command
1971		Promoted Captain
1971-72		Senior Officers War Course
1972-74	HMS Phoenix	In Command
1974-	HMS AJAX	In Command and as Captain (F) of the

## JULY

Monday 7 Weapon Training in the Portland Exercise Areas  
Friday 11 Return to Devonport and give an Extended Long Weekend to  
50% of the Ships Company  
Monday 14 Harbour Week in Devonport, carrying out a Ships Maintenance  
Period.  
Thursday 17 An Extended Long weekend for the remaining 50% of the Ships  
Company.  
Tuesday 22 SAIL for the Group Deployment (now is the time to buy that writing  
pad)  
Saturday 26 Arrive in Gibraltar (visit the Barbary Apes)  
Monday 28 Leave Gibraltar (commence Mediterranean cruise!)

## AUGUST

Saturday 2 Arrive Malta (that tan is beginning to show)  
Monday 4\* Leave Malta. (Goodbye Island in the Sun)  
Saturday 9\* Slowly wind ourselves down the Suez Canal into the Red Sea.  
Wednesday 20\* Arrive in the Persian Gulf (It ain't 'alf 'ot here Mum!)  
Monday 25\* Depart the Persian Gulf and into the Indian Ocean (Phew!)  
Saturday 30\* Arrive in Bombay (India) (Will I see a Bombay Runner?)

## SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 2\* Leave Bombay (and carry on South)  
Friday 12 Arrive in Singapore (But only for the weekend)  
Monday 15 Leave Singapore (head North)  
Friday 19 Arrive in Hong Kong (Another Island in the Sun)  
Saturday 27 Leave Hong Kong ( and head South Again)

## OCTOBER

Friday 3 Arrive in Singapore and carry out an 'Assisted Maintenance Period)  
Monday 27 Leave Singapore (that month went fast enough)

## NOVEMBER

Monday 3 Arrive in Freemantle (Australia) (visit ex-Englanders ?)  
Saturday 8 Leave Freemantle (and head for another Australian port)  
Friday 14 Arrive in Sydney (but it's only for a weekend)  
Monday 17 Leave Sydney (We'll have to come back again)  
Wednesday 19 Exercises, Exercises, and more Exercises  
Friday 28 Arrive in Nelson (New Zealand) (will have to look up the Atlas)

## DECEMBER

Monday 8 Leave Nelson (I wonder if that was nice)  
Saturday 13 Arrive in Melbourne (home from home ?)  
Saturday 20 Leave Melbourne (It's getting near Christmas now)  
Monday 22 Arrive in Adelaide (for Christmas and the New Year)

## JANUARY 1976

Monday 5 Leave Adelaide (What happened to New Years Day ?)

## NOTES ON THE PROGRAMME ABOVE

1. \* Donates Programme subject of confirmation
2. The contents of this programme are intended to assist families and not for general release.
3. As always, ships programmes are liable to change, and later in this edition, you can find out who to contact if the programme alters a lot.
4. Get your school Atlas out and follow our progress week by week.

## SOME USEFUL INFORMATION

### WELFARE

As next-of-kin of serving members of AJAX's ship's company, you should be aware of the organisation from whom up to date information can be obtained while we are away. If you are seeking advice or need help, you should contact the nearest Welfare Authority to your home, irrespective of the location of your own designated Welfare Authority.

The Authorities are :-

<u>PORTSMOUTH</u>	The Family Welfare Officer H.M.S. Nelson, Portsmouth PO1 3HH	} Telephone Number 0705 22351 Ext. 23533
<u>DEVONPORT</u>	The Family Welfare Officer H.M.S. Drake, Devonport PL2 2BG	} Telephone Number 0752 53740 Ext. 5041/2/3
<u>YEOVILTON</u>	The Family Welfare Officer R.N. Air Station Yeovilton Somerset	} Telephone Number 093584 551 Ext. 275

In addition, there are Naval Welfare Offices at the following places.

H.M.S. Pembroke, CHATHAM, Kent. Tele. No 0634 44422 Ext. 3195	H.M.S. Neptune, Faslane, Helensburgh, Dunbartonshire, Tele No. 0436 4321 Ext. 541	H.M.S. Cochrane, Rosyth Fife Tele. No 03834 2121 Ext. 2161
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In making enquiries you should, if possible, give his name, initials, service number, rate and details of where he is serving.

### POSTAL RATES

#### LETTERS

Air Not over 1½oz - 7p (each additional ½oz - 6p)  
Postcards 7p (surface cost - 5½p)  
Forces Air Letter Forms - 4½p (obtainable at the Post Office)

Surface Not over 2oz - 5½p  
4oz - 8p  
6oz - 9½p  
8oz - 11p  
10oz - 13p

#### PARCELS

By Air Air parcels may be sent to us at special rates - ask at any Post Office. You must tell them that we are a seagoing ship.

Surface Not over 21lb - 37p      11lb - 74p  
41lb - 46p      121lb - 78p  
61lb - 54p      141lb - 85p  
71lb - 58p      161lb - 91p  
81lb - 62p      181lb - 97p  
101lb - 70p      201lb - £1.03p  
221lb (maximum) - £1.09p

#### PRINTED PAPERS

By Air Not over 1oz 7½p  
Each oz after or part thereof - 5p

Surface Not over 1oz - 4p      10oz - 15p  
2oz - 5p      11lb - 20p  
4oz - 6p      1½10 - 27p  
8oz - 8½p

### Nec Quisquam Nisi AJAX

AJAX's Motto is taken from OVIDS METAMORPHOSES Book XIII, Line 390, which reads - "Nequisquam Ajacem possit superare nisi AJAX". The actual motto is a slight misquote "Nec Quisquam Nisi AJAX."

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'Ulysses and Ajax had both made speeches supporting their claims to Achilles' arms. Ulysses stressed his own cleverness and Ajax's stupidity. Ajax stressed Ulysses' lying deceits and his own strength as a warrior. The judges chose Ulysses and gave him the prize. Ajax picked up his sword and said "This at least is mine, I must use it against myself. A sword which was often wet with Trojan blood, shall now be wet with that of its owner, lest anyone other than Ajax be able to take the letter of Ajax."

### AJAX WHO WAS HE ?

About 1200 BC Troy was a wealthy and influential city in Asia Minor. Paris, son of the King of Troy, made off with Helen, wife of the King of Sparta, a neighbouring Greek kingdom. This triggered off ten years of war in which successive Greek forces, led by Achilles, Agamemnon and Menelaus (Helen's husband) beseiged Troy. The war was fully reported by Homer in his 'Iliad' and 'Odyssey' and by Virgil in his 'Aeneid'. Their writings have been confirmed by excavation of the site of Troy. The war did not end until the affair of the Wooden Horse.

There were two Ajaxes. Ajax the lesser sailed against Troy with 40 ships. on his way home he was wrecked and escaped to a rock. When he boasted that he would be saved in spite of the gods, Poseidon split the rock and Ajax drowned.

Ajax the greater (no relative) was a major hero of the war. He fought single handed against Hector, the Trojan champion, defended the Greek ships and killed many Trojans. When the armour of Achilles, killed near the end of the war, was awarded to Ulysses, Ajax in madness killed himself. Hence our motto: "NEC QUISQUAM NISI AJAX".

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Have you ever thought why it is that a ship is always referred to as 'she'. Here are one or two reasons as to why this might be so :-

"There is always a great deal of bustle around her....."

"Because there is usually a gang of men around her....."

"Because she takes a lot of pains to keep her good looking....."

"Because she has a waist and stays....."

"Because it's not the initial expense that breaks you it's the upkeep....."

"Because she is all decked out....."

"Because it takes a good man to handle her right....."

"Because she shows her topsides, hides her bottom and, when coming into port, always heads for the buoys....."

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Unlike our civilian counterparts, we do not enjoy a daily postal service. That is why when we arrive in harbour we eagerly await our mail. Usually it is on the jetty waiting for us, but everyone asks themselves, 'Is there one for me'. A letter from YOU will make all the difference, to make sure your husband/son/fiance/brother/boyfriend/nephew/grandad/acquaintance etc will not be disappointed.

SOMEONE, (a sailor) SOMEWHERE (at sea) WANTS (needs) A LETTER FROM YOU - PLEASE

THE SAILOR'S TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. Thou shalt not scrounge, neither shalt thou swing the lead, lest thy resting place be the deep waters upon which thou sail.
2. Thou shalt not take the name of the Petty Officers in vain or thou shalt have thy names inscribed upon the books of the First Lieutenant and thou shalt embark upon courses of chokey.
3. Honour the Master at Arm and Leading Reg. all the days of thy service, that thy credits be numbered even at the fishes below thee.
4. Thou shalt not fill thyself to overflowing with beer or by Royal Warrant thou shalt lose much of thy pay, and the Master at Arms shalt number thee amongst his flock, for it is written that he who drinketh to excess shalt paint the mast.
5. Six days shalt thou labour and on the seventh thou shalt do twice as much.
6. If it comes to pass that thy zeal and the sweat of thy brow cause mention of thee in the Wardroom, and thou art elevated to the dizzy heights of A.B., Lo ! thou shalt present thy humble body at thy dwelling place and shall crave that thy messmates accept sippers of thy beer all round.
7. Thou shalt not take unto thyself thy brethrens kit, neither shalt thou borrow when the owner thereof is not present or thy sins will be visited upon thee by the quickness of the hand that blacketh the eye.
8. Thou shalt not fritter away thy wordly goods by playing Crown and Anchor, lest the avenging voice of the Angel Crusher be heard to say "Render unto me thy names and let thy money remain where it lieth".
9. Thou shalt not kill if thy Petty Officer grieveth thee. Thou shalt not smite him, neither shalt thou sling him over the side. Thou shouldst go unto the Headman and crave audience with Him and set forth thy grievance with much wailing, gnashing of thy teeth and tearing of thy breast. He shall open his mouth and words of wisdom shall flow forth, and next time it shall be even twice as bad.
10. And when it shall come to pass that thou hast finished thy time, thou shalt embark upon the waters, and journey thereon until thou reachest the land called Blighty. There thou shalt take upon thyself strange garments and shall be known as 'Civvy' in the land, and thou shalt study the dole and the drawing thereof, and for many years thou shalt take it easy and rest from thy labours.

- - - - - so now you know it - - - - -

LOVING A SAILOR

(or what we hope that you all think of us)

Loving a sailor is bitterness and tears. It's loneliness, sadness and unfounded fears. Reluctantly, painfully, letting him go when your heart is crying and wanting him so. You wait for news, no more for a spell. You worry and hope that he is well. And when he comes home you shine with joy, like a child with a brand new toy, And really meaning the things that you say. And though you know he is far away you love him more each passing day. Loving a sailor it's not much fun, but it's worth all the heartache when the long trip has been done. Believe us. We love our sailors and always will. (From all the loving wives).

## AJAX - A PROUD NAME

### A short history of ships that were named AJAX

- AJAX 1 1767 3rd Rate. 1,615 tons.  
This 74 gun ship of the Line served under Admiral Rodney and was present at numerous actions including the Battles off Martinique and the Battle of the Saints. She was sold at Sheerness in 1785.
- AJAX 2 1798 3rd Rate 1,953 tons.  
A '74' like her predecessor, she fought against the French during the Napoleonic wars, and was present at the Battle of Trafalgar where she was in Admiral Nelson's line, astern of the Agamemnon.
- AJAX 3 1809 3rd Rate.  
Another '74', she too fought against the French in numerous actions. In 1846 she was converted to steam and later took part in the Baltic operations during the Russian War of 1845-5. She was broken up at Chatham in 1865.
- AJAX 4 1835 2nd Rate. 80 guns  
Launched as HMS Vanguard and re-named in 1867. She spent most of her time in reserve, being broken up at Chatham in 1875.
- AJAX 5 1880 Turret Ship. 8,492 tons.  
Armed with 4 x 38 ton guns. She was employed on Coast Guard duties, and was broken up in 1904.
- AJAX 6 1912 Battleship. 23,000 tons.  
Sporting 10 x 13.5" guns and 12" of armour she had a maximum speed of 21 knots. Serving as a unit of the Grand Fleet during the 1914-18 war, she was present at the Battle of Jutland, stationed second ship in the port line astern of HMS King George V. She was subsequently scrapped in 1926.
- AJAX 7 1932 Cruiser. 6,985 tons.  
One of the 'Leander' class 6 Cruisers, she is chiefly remembered for the part she played in the destruction of the Graf Spee in 1939. For most of the remainder of the war she served in the Mediterranean, and took part in the Battle of Matapan. During one Engagement, while covering a convoy, she sank or cripple three Italian destroyers. Heavily damaged by a bomb hit in 1943, she was under refit for a year before returning to finish the war in the Mediterranean. She was broken up in 1949, and her bell was presented to the Government of Uruguay.  
(This famous name was also adopted, in 1949, by the Town of AJAX, Ontario, to commemorate the men who fought in HMS AJAX at the Battle of the River Plate. The streets of the town are named after the men who lost their lives in this battle)
- AJAX 8 1962 Leander Class Anti-Submarine Frigate. 2,800 tons.  
Launched at Cammell Lairds Yard on 16th August by Lady Dreyer, wife of Admiral Sir Desmond Dreyer who was Gunnery Lieutenant of the AJAX at the Battle of the River Plate. 372 feet long and 41 feet beam she is armed with Ikara Anti-Submarine Missiles, Seacat missiles, two 40mm Bofors and a three-barrelled Anti-Submarine mortar. She carries a Wasp Anti-Submarine helicopter and has a speed of about 30 knots.
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THIS AND THAT

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

While AJAX is working hard on the High Seas it becomes rather difficult to obtain Daily Newspapers. If you come across some witty or amusing article in your newspaper, and would like to share it with us all on AJAX, drop it into an envelope and address it to The Editor, T.W.I.T.T. H.M.S. AJAX, B.P.P.O. Ships. We hope to be running a weekly newspaper at sea, and would welcome such items.

S.R.E. REQUESTS

Our own Broadcasting Station just cannot wait to hear from you. The address is given elsewhere in this issue. Please drop a line.

NEXT ISSUE

It is hoped that we can publish the next Families issue of this 'Newsletter' in October, so if there is anything that you particularly would like, drop a line to The Editor. We will do our best to please you.

AND ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

'Guilty or not guilty?' the judge said to the defendant.  
'How do I know that! I havn't heard the evidence yet.'

A politician, trying to win some rural votes, said, "Farming is the oldest profession the world has ever seen." You're wrong," said an old farmer, "politics is the oldest profession." "Why do you say that?"  
"Well, we're told that God created the world out of chaos. But who created the chaos."

The elephant had died and one of the circus workers was weeping bitterly.  
"You must have been very fond of the animal," one of his friends said.  
"It's not that. I've been told to dig the grave"

If you think these bad - how about sending us some good one's .....Ed.

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A FEW OLD PROVERBS

Almsgiving mever made a poor man  
Always leave a welcome behind you  
It is hard to be high and humble  
It is a good ill that comes alone  
More men die of drink than of thirst  
He that is full of himself is very empty

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SIGNALS ABOUT THE FLEET

May 13th 1945 (From CINC 5th Fleet to the Fifth Fleet)  
"The war with Japan will end at 1200 on the 15th August. It is likely that Kamikazies will attack the fleet after this time as a final fling. Any ex-enemy aircraft attacking is to be shot down in a friendly manner".

Scene: Foul Atlantic weather, one destroyer comes across another that has been dismantled.

"How come?" Said the First Destroyer

"Scraped under a very low cloud" said the Second

OUR PAGE FOR THE YOUNG (CHILDREN)

A few questions first :

Q - What kind of table has no legs ?

A - A timetable

Q.- What goes round an ashtray at a hundred miles an hour ?

A - A E-type fag.

Q.- How do you get in touch with a fish ?

A - Just drop a line.

Q - What did the North wind say to the South wind ?

A.- Let's play draughts.

Q - What happens when you burn the wood of an oak tree ?

A - It becomes ash.

Knock! Knock!

Who's there?

Boo.

Boo who?

Dont cry it's only a joke.

A tourist was admiring some very high cliffs when a local man came along.

"Those cliffs look very dangerous," said the tourist "Do people often fall over them ?

"No - only once....."

Try this little puzzle and try and make a month out of it. A letter from every line will do it.

My first is in FINE but no in NICE

My second is in NEVER and also in TWICE

My third is in BOX and also in BAG

My fourth is in ROCK and also in RAG

My fifth is in HUT but not in THATCH

My sixth is in CIGAR and also in MATCH

My Seventh is in POOR and also in RICH

My eighth is in WHY but not in WHICH

My whole comes early in the year

Can you make out what these flowers are ?

1. SEORS
2. TAPEEWSE
3. SAIHADLS
4. LIPUTS
5. SAIHADL

A little limerick (can you make one up ?)

There was a young lady called Flynn

Who was so uncommonly thin

That she was afraid,

When she drank lemonade,

That she'd slip through the straw and fall in.

Try this tongue twister:

Betty bought butter but the butter Betty bought was bad butter, so Betty bought better butter than the butter Betty bought before.

MAKE A PROMISE TO UNCLE FRED

Uncle Fred is a very good friend of mine. He is very nice and likes to know that all children are good at all times. So now Uncle Fred wants you to make a promise that you will be good when Daddy is away at Sea. It would be nice if you could help Mammy around the house and not be naughty. You can write to Uncle Fred. When Mammy writes to Daddy, you could ask her to put a note in from you. All Daddies know Uncle Fred. So remember MAKE A PROMISE - BE GOOD AT ALL TIMES.