

ENCLOSURE TO "AUSTRALIA'S" LETTER NO. SC.1/10 OF 24th MARCH, '41.

HOME FLEET TEMPORARY MEMORANDUM NO. 288 DATED 20th AUGUST, 1940.

PAINTING OF SHIPS.

Camouflage painting of ships in patches of green and brown is not considered to be of any value for seagoing ships and is to be discontinued. There is some evidence that in certain conditions of light and background, a form of camouflage or dazzle painting, using light and dark grey, may confuse identification and determination of course by observers, particularly by those in aircraft.

2. Capital ships and aircraft carriers of the Home Fleet when in Home Waters are to be painted Home Fleet Grey. Cruisers, at the discretion of the Flag Officers Commanding Squadrons, may be dazzle painted as in paragraph 1 or painted Home Fleet Grey.

3. The decks of all ships, cruisers and above, are to be of a dark colour. For wooden decks and approximate mixture of

Japan Black	6 parts
Turpentine	1 part
Liquid Dryers	6 parts

Applied to a dry deck gives good results.

4. The tops of gun turrets and other horizontal surfaces are to be painted to tone with the decks, using the non-slip deck paint referred to in C.A.F.O. 1446/40. When dazzle painting is adopted these flat surfaces should be included in the colour scheme.
