



RACT POLICY STATEMENT

**Office of the Deputy Head of Corps
Royal Australian Corps of Transport
Army Logistic Training Centre
BANDIANA VIC 3694**

24 October 2006

STATEMENT NO 41

NAMING OF RACT WATERCRAFT

This Policy Statement will expire on:

24 September 2011

Issued by the Head of Corps Royal Australian Corps of Transport for application within the Royal Australian Corps of Transport.

Michael Kehoe

**M.C. KEHOE
Brigadier
Head of Corps
Royal Australian Corps of Transport**

DISTRIBUTION

As per RACT Policy Statement No. 1 Annex A

RACT POLICY STATEMENT NO 41
NAMING OF ARMY WATERCRAFT

INTRODUCTION

Reference:

A. DI(A) 12-1 *Naming of Army watercraft*

1. Army operates various types of watercraft in order to provide appropriate water transport support to amphibious and LOTS operations. These craft should be named in such a way as to promote historical links between the Army and the community, be recognisable as Australian and foster a sense of esprit de corps within watercraft units and Army.

AIM

2. The aim of this Corps Policy Statement (CPS) are to:
- a. Reinforce the naming principles that are to be applied when naming RACT operated Army watercraft;
 - b. Specify the staffing procedure for naming proposals;
 - c. List the names of all current Army watercraft; and
 - d. Detail a “pool” of reserved names that may be used for future Army watercraft.

NAMING PRINCIPLES

3. Ref A outlines the following principles to be applied to the selection of names for Army Watercraft:
- a. Landing Craft are to be named after Harbours, Rivers, Bays, Islands and areas of operation in which water transport units have served. Landing Craft will not normally be named after individuals. In exceptional circumstances, Landing Craft may be named after a significant battle or notable military campaign that has a strong connection with the vessel or unit which it serves.
 - b. Amphibious Craft are to be named to recognise individuals, either living or dead, who have made a significant contribution to the Army, particularly within RACT and service to the Australian National Antarctic Resupply Expedition (ANARE).
 - c. Support Craft are to be named after Australian Flora and Fauna.
4. Army watercrafts are not to be named after cities, towns, or districts, since this is reserved for ships of the Royal Australian Navy.

IMPLEMENTATION

5. Each proposal for the naming of RACT operated Army watercraft is to be forwarded through Corps channels within the chain of command to SO2 Corps (RACT) for consideration by the RACT Corps Committee. In other words, naming proposals are to be staffed through the relevant Regional Representative to the SO2 Corps. Once endorsed by the Corps Committee the proposal will be forwarded DCOORD-A for approval. When naming watercraft after a campaign, battle or notable person, the proposal is to state the nature of the association or the reason for such naming. When notable persons are involved, the proposal is to include the full name and address of the named member or next of kin as applicable and if known.
6. All nominations for naming of Army watercraft will be considered and endorsed by the RACT Corps Committee with HOC retaining the power of veto. Submissions for naming of Army watercraft are to be staffed at least two months prior to the relevant RACT Corps Committee meeting noting that these meetings are usually held in March, August and October each year.
7. A flow diagram for the submission of naming proposals is shown at annex A.

RESPONSIBILITIES

8. Proposing RACT Sub-units and Units. OC/CO of RACT sub-units and units that make a naming proposal are responsible for ensuring:
 - a. That the proposal is fully justified in accordance with paragraph five above and meets the requirements of both ref A and this CPS.
 - b. That where necessary, direction is given for further research to amplify the proposal prior to on-forwarding the proposal.
 - c. That the proposed name is not in use.
 - d. That the proposal is staffed to the appropriate Regional Representative at least two months prior to the next scheduled RACT Corps Committee meeting.
 - e. Meeting all costs associated with naming an Army watercraft such as travel expenses for guests at naming ceremonies, sign writing, naming ceremony costs etc.
9. Regional Representatives. The Regional Representatives are responsible for ensuring:
 - a. That the proposal is complete and adequately justified.
 - b. That the proposal is staffed to the SO2 Corps within 14 days of receipt.
10. SO2 Corps. The SO2 Corps is responsible for ensuring:
 - a. That the proposal is complete and adequately justified.
 - b. That the proposal is staffed to the COLs COMDT, RACT Corps Committee and the Corps WO1s for comment and feedback within 14 days of receipt.
11. RACT Corps Committee. The RACT Corps Committee is responsible for ensuring:
 - a. That the proposal meets the requirements of both ref A and this CPS.

- b. That acceptance of the proposed watercraft name will satisfy the naming principles contained in ref A.
- c. That the proposed watercraft name will enhance esprit de corps within not only the water transport trade but also the wider RACT and Army.
- d. That the proposed watercraft name will maintain and enhance a professional corporate image of the RACT within the wider ADF.

CURRENT NAMES OF ARMY WATERCRAFT

12. A list of currently approved watercraft names is at Annex B. This list will be amended as necessary. It will be noted that the current names of the LCM8s do not comply with the naming principles. Vide ref A, current names will be retained as they are registered with the relevant maritime safety authorities and any change to names will require significant staff work and additional cost to Army to register new names. When each craft is de-commissioned these names will cease to be used but will not be moved to the pool.

POOL NAMES

13. Annex C shows the pool of reserved names that may be used for Army watercraft introduced into service. This list will be amended as necessary. Names in this list are to be considered first when compiling naming proposals. However, if considered warranted, alternate names may be proposed in accordance with this CPS.

COMMISSIONING AND DE-COMMISSIONING OF ARMY WATERCRAFT

14. Naming Ceremonies. When an Army watercraft is brought into service units/sub-units may conduct a naming ceremony once the vessel's name has been approved. However, as outlined at paragraph eight above, all costs associated with such a ceremony are to be borne by the relevant unit/sub-unit. Similarly, all organisation and coordination of naming ceremonies is a unit/sub-unit responsibility. Consideration should be given to inviting Head of Corps, the Representative Colonel Commandant, the relevant Colonel Commandant and the Corps RSM to attend such ceremonies.

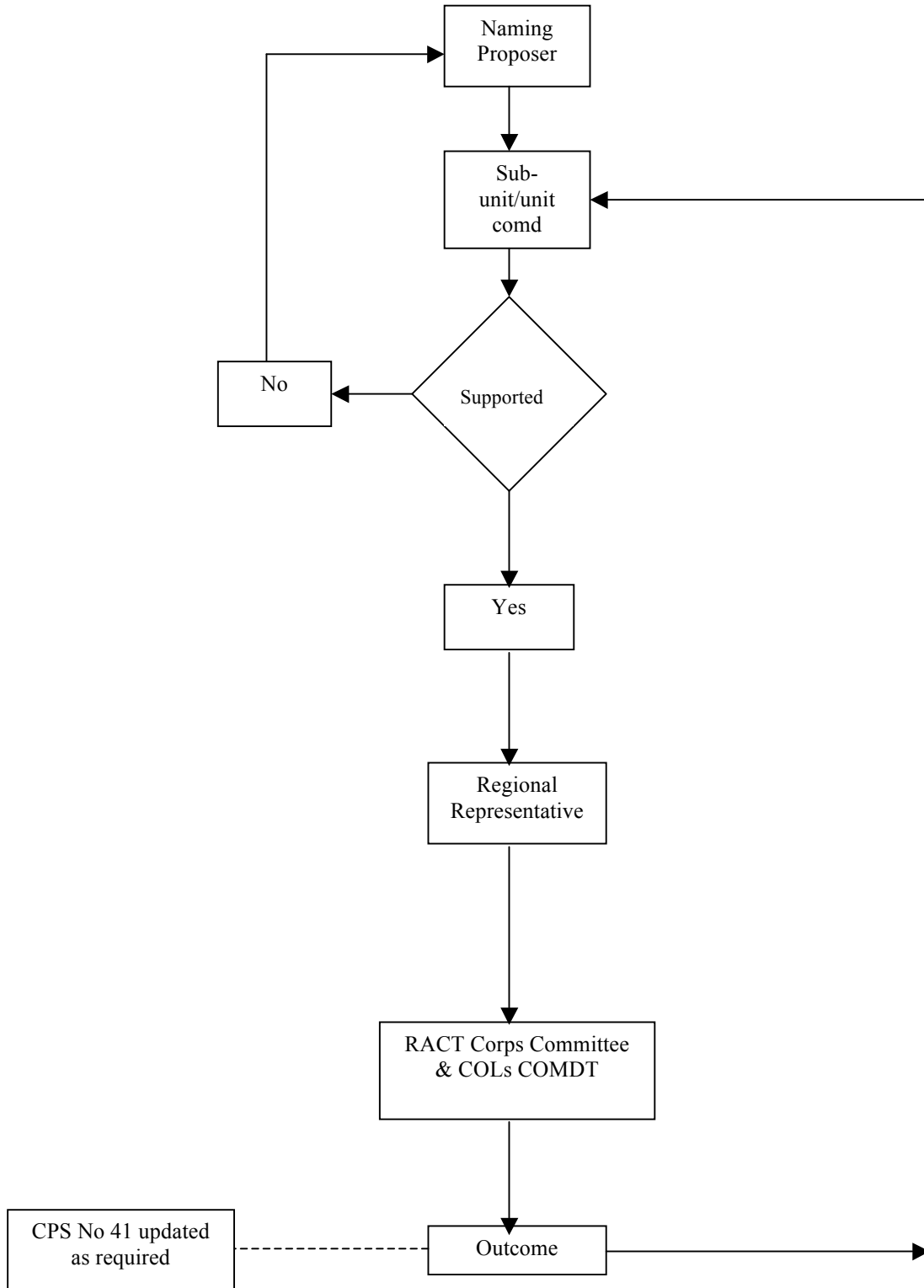
15. Life Cycle of Vessel Names. Names assigned to Army watercraft will remain extant throughout the service life of the vessel. This includes any and all periods where the vessel is undergoing refit or is allocated to a repair pool. A particular name will cease being used only when that vessel is permanently withdrawn from service (i.e. de-commissioned) or when a new name is approved by the RACT Corps Committee.

16. Names of De-commissioned Vessels. When an Army watercraft is permanently withdrawn from service the vessel name will be transferred to the pool of names at Annex C. Similarly, where a new name is assigned to a vessel, the old name will be transferred to the pool except as provided at paragraph 12 above.

Annexes:

- A. Flow Chart for Naming Proposals
- B. Current Names of Army Watercraft
- C. Pool Names of Army Watercraft

FLOW CHART FOR NAMING PROPOSALS



**ANNEX B TO
RACT POLICY STATEMENT NO 41
DATED 24OCT 06**

CURRENT NAMES OF RACT WATERCRAFT

Vessel Type	Vessel Number	Vessel Name	Unit	Name Justification or Historical Link
LARC V	117 083	W.J. Wark	Army Museum Bandiana	Outdoor display
LARC V	117 087	R. Gorzalka	10 FSB	CPL Gorzalka (deceased) made a significant contribution to Army Water transport and the RACT
LARC V	117 094	R.K. Mair	HQ ASTO, ALTC	COL Mair (Retd) made a significant professional and personal commitment to the AASC, RAASC and RACT in a military career spanning 24 years and after that as Representative Colonel Commandant and Colonel Commandant 3 rd and 6 th Military Districts
LARC V	117 111	K. Stafford	10 FSB	WO2 Stafford (deceased) made a significant contribution to Army water transport and the RACT
LARC V	117 115	L. McGrath	10 FSB	PTE McGrath (deceased) made a significant contribution to Army water transport and the RACT
LARC V	117 116	D. Searle	10 FSB	PTE Searle (deceased) made a significant contribution to Army water transport and the RACT
LARC V	117 117	M.C. Price	Army Museum Bandiana	Indoor display
LARC V	117 121	G. Holland	10 FSB	CPL Holland (deceased) made a significant contribution to Army water transport and the RACT
LARC V	117 123	P. Bourke	10 FSB	CPL Bourke (deceased) made a significant contribution to Army water transport and RAEME
LARC V	117 125	M. Smith	10 FSB	CFN Smith (deceased) made a significant contribution to Army water transport and RAEME
LARC V	117 128	L. Stooke	10 FSB	First Detachment Commander of ANARE 1948-48
LARC V	Spare	J. Cunningham	JLU	WO2 Cunningham (deceased) made a significant contribution to Army water transport and the RACT
LARC V	Spare	R. Milan	JLU	CPL Milan (retired) made a significant contribution to Army water transport and the RACT
LCM8	AB 1050	Coconut Queen	10 FSB	Current name

Vessel Type	Vessel Number	Vessel Name	Unit	Name Justification or Historical Link
LCM8	AB 1051	Seahorse 2	10 FSB	Current name
LCM8	AB 1053	Sea Widow	10 FSB	Current name
LCM8	AB 1055	Midnight Sun	10 FSB	Current name
LCM8	AB 1056	Charlie Brown	10 FSB	Current name
LCM8	AB 1058	Anzac Cove	ALTC	Current name
LCM8	AB 1059	Snoopy	10 FSB	Current name
LCM8	AB 1060	Wanderer	10 FSB	Current name
LCM8	AB 1061	Northern Warrior	10 FSB	Current name
LCM8	AB 1062	Ocean Marie	10 FSB	Current name
LCM8	AB1063	Ice Fire	10 FSB	Current name
LCM8	AB 1064	Sea Trojan	10 FSB	Current name
LCM8	AB 1065	Viking Sun	10 FSB	Current name
LCM8	AB 1066	Hastings	10 FSB	Current name
LCM8	AB 1067	Charisma	10 FSB	Current name
LPA/LCU	AB2000	Porton	10 FSB	In 1945, in order to expedite operations in northern Bougainville, an infantry company from 31 st /51 st Bn was landed in the rear of the enemy line at Porton Plantation by 42 Aust Landing Craft Coy. However, the second wave became stuck on a reef and the landed force became cut-off. Under withering Japanese fire, other landing craft eventually rescued the stranded men. It was in this action that CAPT (later COL) R.K. Mair was awarded an MBE for his bravery in personally rescuing several soldiers.
LPA/LCU	AB2001	Buna	10 FSB	In November 1942, craft of the Army Water Transport organization landed the tanks of the 2/4 th Armd Regt at Oro Bay for the assaults at Buna, Gona and on to Sanananda, and ongoing general transport support. For his work in support at Buna one of the crafts' Master was mentioned in dispatches.
LPA/LCU	AB2002	Ba Ria	10 FSB	Beginning with LSM AV Vernon Sturdee supporting the initial deployment of 1 st Australian Task Force to Nui Dat in 1966, that LSM and its replacement <i>Clive Steele</i> , provided transport up the Song Co May to Ba Ria with heavy lift cargoes.
LPA/LCU	AB2003	Loloho	10 FSB	Loloho was the headquarters of the Logistic Support Team from 1997 onwards. Two LCM8s from 35 Water Tpt Sqn operated continuously from Loloho from 1997 until 2000 to deploy, re-deploy and sustain the mission's truce monitoring teams around the AO.

Vessel Type	Vessel Number	Vessel Name	Unit	Name Justification or Historical Link
LPA/LCU	AB2004	Dili	10 FSB	35 Water Tpt Sqn LCM8s were an integral component of OPs WARDEN (INTERFET), and TANAGER (UNTAET) operations from 21 Sep 1999 onwards. Although the craft and their crews were rotated, two LCM8s constantly remained deployed to East Timor until mid-2002.
LPA/LCU	AB2005	Suai	10 FSB	Suai was the location of HQ Sector West as well as the site of the only LOTS operations during OP WARDEN and OP TANAGER. 35 Water Tpt Sqn LCM8s and LARC V craft were stationed there in support of AUSBATT and NZBATT. The LCM8s conducted regular runs between Suai and Dili moving supplies and materiel.
Shark Cat	AM 243	Dugong	10 FSB	Current name
Shark Cat	AM 244	Cougar	ALTC	Current name
Shark Cat	TBA	TBA	TBA	
Shark Cat	TBA	TBA	TBA	
Shark Cat	TBA	TBA	TBA	
Shark Cat	TBA	TBA	TBA	
Shark Cat	TBA	TBA	TBA	

**ANNEX C TO
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DATED 24OCT 06**

POOL NAMES FOR ARMY WATERCRAFT

Name	Justification
Kangaroo Point	The original home of 34 Wtr Tpt Sqn prior to moving to Bulimba
Woolwich	The original home of 35 Wtr Tpt Sqn prior to Moving to Ross Island
Colmslie	The base for 11 and 12 Small Ships Coys during WW2
Trinity Beach	Trinity Beach was the location at Cairns where 5 th , 6 th , 7 th and 9 th Divs conducted their amphibious training before moving to the islands of the SWPA
Coochiemudlo Island	Coochiemudlo Island off Brisbane was a training camp during WW2
Harry Chauvel	AV 1353 'Harry Chauvel' was a Landing Ships Medium (LSM) purchased from the United States Navy in 1959 that remained in service until the early 1970s
Brudenell White	AV 1354 'Brudenell White' was another LSM purchased at the same time as the 'Harry Chauvel'
Vernon Sturdee	AV 1355 'Vernon Sturdee' was another LSM purchased at the same time as the 'Harry Chauvel'
Clive Steele	AV 1356 'Clive Steel' was another LSM purchased at the same time as the 'Harry Chauvel'. This particular vessel was involved in an action on the Bassac River in SVN on 5 Jan 69 the first such action for an Army watercraft since WW2
John Monash	AS 3051 'John Monash' was purchased from the Adelaide Steamship Company in 1965. At 1,396 tons she was the largest ship ever operated by Army and saw service in SVN
H.J.B. Burrell	Sapper Harry Burrell was awarded the Military Medal for his actions during the fighting at Buoi Plantation on OP PORTON in June 1945
W.R. Jaensch	Sapper Jaensch was also awarded the Military Medal for his actions during the fighting at Buoi Plantation on OP PORTON in June 1945
J.R. Bourke	A water transport soldier killed in action during WW2
G. Roy	A water transport soldier killed in action during WW2
S.D. Johnston	A water transport soldier killed in action during WW2
R.C. Kennon	A water transport soldier killed in action during WW2
T.K. Kingston	A water transport soldier killed in action during WW2
Sir Ninian Stephan	Sir Ninian Stephen was a CPL in 43 Landing Craft Coy during WW2 and went on to become Governor General of Australia. He also made a significant contribution to the Water Transport Association
Sir Nigel Bowen	Sir Nigel Bowen was 2IC of 43 Landing Craft Coy during WW2 and went on to become Chief Justice of Australia. He also made a significant contribution to the Water Transport Association
J.C.A. Hallett	COL Hallett was an ex-Director of Transportation and the ex-Patron of the Water Transport Association
S.G. Penniger	The first OC of one of the Landing Craft Coys of 1 AWT Gp
R.R. Chester	The first OC of one of the Landing Craft Coys of 1 AWT Gp

Name	Justification
G.D. Mitchell	The first OC of one of the Landing Craft Coys of 1 AWT Gp
W. Forman	CAPT Forman was awarded a US Legion of Merit during WW2
C.D.R. Chesterman	LTCOL Chesterman commanded 1 AWT Gp during WW2 and was awarded an OBE