

# HMS RELENTLESS

*By Sam185*

## 1950's SHIP'S LOGS

### 1952

Last Updated: 31<sup>st</sup> July 2013

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## INTRODUCTION

The information contained in the following pages has been transcribed directly from the official SHIP'S LOGs of HMS RELENTLESS which can be viewed at the National Archives in Kew.

In the main, these logs were completed by the Officer of the Watch (OOW) when the ship was at sea and by the Quartermaster (QM) when the ship was in harbour.

Each log, representing one calendar month, was completed in PENCIL, with no erasure allowed. Any errors were crossed out and the correct data entered, and each log was signed and dated by the Captain on a weekly basis.

There does not appear to be any strict rule regarding what goes in the logs. Some OOWs were diligent in completing the logs, some were not. The same is true of entries made by the QM.

Quite a few log entries have NOT been transcribed. When at sea, there are numerous entries regarding changes of course eg."a/c to avoid fishing vessels" and in harbour, many references to the Guard Boat or MOD Police patrols, or ships passing.

As is the way of things, many entries are abbreviated, have acronyms or are accepted Naval terms or expressions and these are shown 'as is'.

Ships names are shown in upper case eg. JUPITER or RFA OLMEDA.  
Shore Establishments are styled as follows: HMS Mercury

Any data show in *italics* is information added to clarify or question the log entries, and entries shown in quotes are verbatim.

The status of transcribed Ship's Logs is as follows: **Do not exist** - **Done** - **Coming Soon**

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
<b>Pre-1951</b>	Do not exist												
<b>1951</b>	Do not exist						Done	Done	Done	Done	Done	Done	Do not exist
<b>1952</b>	Do not exist	Done	Do not exist			Do not exist	Coming Soon	Done	Coming Soon	Done	Done	Coming Soon	
<b>1953</b>	Done	Done	Done	Done	Done	Do not exist	Done	Done	Coming Soon	Done	Done	Coming Soon	
<b>1954</b>	Coming Soon	Done	Done	Done	Done	Do not exist	Done	Done	Done	Do not exist	Done	Done	
<b>1955</b>	Done	Done	Done	Done	Done	Do not exist							
<b>1956</b>	Do not exist								Done	Do not exist			
<b>1957-1963</b>	Do not exist												
<b>1964</b>	Do not exist					Done	Done	Done	Done	Done	Done	Done	Done
<b>1965</b>	Done	Done	Done	Done	Done	Done	Done	Done	Done	Done	Done	Done	
<b>1966</b>	Done	Done	Done	Done	Do not exist	Do not exist	Do not exist	Do not exist	Done	Do not exist	Do not exist	Do not exist	
<b>1967</b>	Do not exist	Done	Done	Done	Do not exist	Do not exist	Do not exist	Do not exist	Do not exist	Do not exist	Do not exist	Do not exist	
<b>1968</b>	Do not exist	Do not exist	Do not exist	Do not exist	Do not exist	Do not exist	Do not exist	Do not exist	Do not exist				
<b>Post 1968</b>	Do not exist												

## HMS RELENTLESS – EXTRACT FROM SHIP’S LOG – 1952

1952	Place / Position	Comments
		<b>No Ship’s Log exists for January 1952</b>
05 Feb	Devonport	No entries
06 Feb	Devonport	1050-1142 Captain left ship on official visit 1200 Colours at half-mast in accordance with KR 42 Alfa 1400 S/Lt Reader left ship for CRISPIN 2245 Captain(D) returned to Londonderry
07 Feb	Devonport	1020 Oiler secured alongside
08 Feb	Devonport	<b>NOTE IN LOG</b> <i>Accession of Queen Elizabeth II took place today throughout the British Commonwealth and Empire</i> 1030 Guard fall in on quarterdeck 1050 Hands to clean for Divisions 1120 Hands fall in on the quarterdeck 1130 Colours close up. 21 gun salute fired in honour of the Queen’s Accession. Ships company gave three cheers in her honour 1135 Up spirits
09/10 Feb	Devonport	No entries
11 Feb	Devonport	1005 Slipped from DUNKIRK 1025 Secured alongside PORLOCK BAY, 4 Basin N Wall 1225 Slipped from PORLOCK BAY 1300 Secured alongside 4 Basin E Wall
12 Feb	Devonport	1530-1710 1st Lt ashore 1830 S/Lt Robertson joined ship 2330 Draft arrived on board 1 PO + 1
13 Feb	Devonport	1405-1425 1 <sup>st</sup> Lt ashore
14 Feb	Devonport	0934 Commanding officer Lt Cdr Baxter and Engineer Officer left ship on leave 1010 Piping Party of 1 PO + 2 left ship for London to attend on the funeral of His Late Majesty King George VI 1135 Lower deck cleared for general payment
15 Feb	Devonport	0900 Colours 0930 56 gun salute fired by HM Ships to commemorate funeral of His Late Majesty King George VI 1225 Clear lower deck hands fell in on the quarterdeck for prayers for His Late Majesty King George VI 1400 Silence observed for two minutes HM King George VI buried at Windsor
16/17 Feb Sat/Sun	Devonport	No entries
18 Feb	Devonport	1725 Duty tug RECOVERY alongside CAMPERDOWN
19 Feb	Devonport	1610 Commanding officer Lt Cmdr Baxter and Engineer officer returned from leave
20 Feb	Devonport	0830 Candidates for PO and Ldg/Seaman to instruction in splicing and transporting stores at sea
21 Feb	Devonport	0730 1 Rating on draft to RNB Chatham 0825 Candidates for higher rate to seamanship instructions

		0900 Ship dressed overall with masthead ensign only in honour of Prince Harold of Norway' anniversary 0930 Ship's funnel removed to jetty Am Starboard cable removed for routine survey 1400 Port cable removed for routine survey 1915 1 rating joined the ship from ROCKET
22 Feb	Devonport	1045 Messdeck rounds 1133 1 rating on draft
23 Feb	Devonport	No entries
24 Feb	Devonport	1820 Two ratings joined ship from RNB Chatham via HMS Sea Eagle
25 Feb	Devonport	0835 1 rating to RNB Portsmouth on draft 0840 Captain "D"s Baggage party, 1 CPO + 3 – left for Derry Londonderry 1635 1 rtg to RNB Devonport
26 Feb	Devonport	0830 First Lieutenant's Requestmen and Defaulters 1145 Draft 1 CPO + 3 Ratings to Londonderry
27 Feb	Devonport	No entries
28 Feb	Devonport	0840 First Lieutenant's Requestmen and Defaulters 0920 CO Lt Cmdr Baxter left ship on leave 1135 Clear lower deck hands muster for fortnightly payment 1600 3 ratings joined ship from RNB(C)
29 Feb	Devonport	0930 One rating sent on draft 1200 One rating sent on draft 1255 One rating on draft to hospital
01 March Sat	Devonport	1000 Steam xxxxx No. 1 boiler removed 1115 Engineer Officer left the ship on leave 1245 One rating returned from hospital 1340 Ch ERA to RNH Devonport
02 Mar Sun	Devonport	0915-1035 1 Lt Cdr RN and 7 RNVR officers visit ship 0930 Secure 0945 Pipe Down 1000 Up spirits
03 Mar	Devonport	0725 3 ratings on draft to RNB Chatham 0810 Brow removed 0830 Slipped from East Wall 0845 Secured alongside North Wall 1535 Commanding Officer Lt Cmdr Baxter returned on board
04 Mar	Devonport	No entries but Log signed by CO? "S L Baxter Lt Cmdr"
05 Mar	Devonport	0815-1535 Signal training class ashore RNSS Vicarage Rd? 1405-1445 Party of ERAs on board instructions
06 Mar	Devonport	0845 3 ratings – SM's - + 1 officer on board for Fleetboard 1200 3 SMs left 1330 1 officer for fleet board left ship
07 Mar	Devonport	0940 Colours half-masted for the funeral at sea of Vice Admiral Macworth 1100 Colours haul close up 1215 One rating left ship on draft to Londonderry 2000 Commanding Officer Lt Cmdr Baxter left ship on LWE leave
		<b>No more Ship's logs until June. June &amp; July still to come</b>

01 Aug	Londonderry	No entries
02 Aug	Londonderry	No entries
03 Aug	Londonderry	No entries
04 Aug	Londonderry	0800 Dressed ship with Masthead Ensign on occasion of birthday of HM Queen Elizabeth, Queen Mother <i>Following entries crossed out</i> <del>1100 Captain "D" arrived on board</del> <del>1115 SNONI arrived on board with wife and two children</del> <del>1235 Captain "D" &amp; SNONI left ship with guests</del>
05 Aug	Londonderry	1430 Offender and two escort to HMS Sea Eagle (from CREOLE)
06 Aug	Londonderry	No entries
07 Aug	Londonderry	No entries
08 Aug	Londonderry	1600 MARINET entered harbour
09 Aug	Londonderry	No entries
10 Aug	Londonderry	2125 One rating discharged to RNAS Eglinton
11 Aug	Londonderry	0945 Escort of three proceeded to HMS Sea Eagle for prisoner 1050 Escort returned on board with prisoner 1320 MARINET left harbour 1440 Lower deck of CREOLE cleared 1445 Prisoner and Escort of 3 left CREOLE en route to Portsmouth
12 Aug	Londonderry	1335 12 Sea Cadets & 1 officer visiting CRISPIN, CREOLE & RELENTLESS 1535 Sea Cadets left ship 1540 Lt Boase joined
13 Aug	Londonderry	1330 1 on draft to Portsmouth from CRISPIN 1345 Two ERAs from HMS Pembroke to RELENTLESS
14 Aug	Londonderry	1630 MARTINET entered harbour
15 Aug	Londonderry	1515 1 Prisoner and 3 escort returned from Portsmouth
16 Aug	Londonderry	1025 FRANKLYN entered harbour
17 Aug	Londonderry	No entries
18 Aug	Londonderry	0840 FRANKLYN left harbour 1600 Clear lower deck for payment
19 Aug	Londonderry	1615 Captain ashore 1815 RML496 entered harbour 1950 Sub Lieutenant Heathcote joined 0005 Captain returned on board
20 Aug	Londonderry  Lisahally         At sea	0800 Slipped 0855 Alongside "C" berth Lisahally 0915 TRAFALGAR secured at Lisahally 0930 TENACIOUS secured alongside 1200-1255 Captain of TENACIOUS on board 1310 LOCH TRALAIG leaves harbour 1320 CREOLE leaves harbour 1405 CRISPIN berths alongside D berth 1415 Captain CRISPIN on board 1520 RML496 enters harbour 1646 TENACIOUS left 2015 Slipped and proceeded - en route Antwerp
21 Aug		0915 CRISPIN & TENACIOUS take station on beam 0930 Commence OOW and independent manoeuvres 1138 TENACIOUS & CRISPIN told to take station astern Position at 1200 53°10.2'N 05°30.7'W 1625-1817 OOW Manoeuvres

		2130 Carried out CXM35 2200 Carried out flashing exercise for Junior Officers
22 Aug	At sea	1103 Coston gunline passed over from CRISPIN 1107 Coston gunline passed over from TENACIOUS Position at 1200 50°6.3'N 02°19.2'W 1628-1810 OOW manoeuvres
23 Aug	Antwerp	1040 Embarked Pilot port side 1021 Exchanged communications with HMNS HEERSKERCK 1500 CRISPIN alongside port side 1515 TENACIOUS alongside CRISPIN
24 Aug	Antwerp	1430-1800 Ship open to visitors
25 Aug	Antwerp	0900 Captain ashore "Official Visits" 1130 HM A/Consulate 1145 General (Belgian) pay official visit 1200 Governor 1215 Burgomaster pay official visit 1230 Captain Belgian Navy pays official visit 1440 Captain ashore. Football match
26 Aug	Antwerp	1830 Official Cocktail Party held on on upper deck
27 Aug	Antwerp	1050-1230 Captain went ashore 1515 Embarked river pilot 1616 Slipped and proceeded. Co & Sp as requisite for proceeding down river Schelde 1930 Disembarked pilot
28 Aug	At sea en route Londonderry from Antwerp	1000 TENACIOUS and CRISPIN take station on either beam 2.5' CRISPIN to port. Commence IFF exercise 1140 CRISPIN and TENACIOUS take station at 1' Position at 1200 50°16.2'N 0°39'W 1217 Exchanged IDs with SLUYS 1355 Exchanged IDs with VERULAM 1420 Carried out TB5 trials with VERULAM 1615-1630 Stopped engines. Lowered seaboat 1640-1900 OOW Manoeuvres
29 Aug	At sea en route Londonderry from Antwerp	1030 CREOLE, CRISPIN to act independently 1033 For Exercise, Disabled require tow by TENACIOUS 1045 Coston gunline passed 1054 Towing wire secured in TENACIOUS 1106 CREOLE under tow by CRISPIN 1112 TENACIOUS told to commence towing 1121 Under tow 1125 TENACIOUS ordered to disconnect 1130 TENACIOUS slipped towing wire and commenced easing out 1140 CREOLE and CRISPIN take station 5 cables on port beam 1143 Disconnected 1145 Gear recovered 1630-1825 OOW Manoeuvres
30 Aug	Londonderry	0756 Secured 19 berth Londonderry 1000 Two ratings on draft HMS Sea Eagle 1015 Sub Lieut Heathcote on draft to Eglinton HMS Gannet 1445 Two ratings joined ship
31 Aug	Londonderry	1020 Captain on board 1105 Captain's Portuguese DD + SS on board 1305 Captain ashore. Expected back 0830

01 Sep	Londonderry	0838 LOCH VEYATIE left harbour 0853 Captain on board 1130 SNONI on official visit to CREOLE 1155 Captain "D" on board 1200-1230 SNONI on board RELENTLESS 1510 Captain ashore
		<b>September still to come</b>
01 Oct	Londonderry  Position at 1200 5520N 0630.2W  Londonderry Exercise Areas	0715 2 ratings on draft to RNB Chatham 0730 Slipped and proceeded to sea 0950 a/c to take up starting position for Exercise TIGERCLAW 1334 Submarine surfaced 1530 Take station on CRISPIN 1700 Close THULE Co & Sp for ASP9 2025 Came to stbd anchor in G berth Movice
02 Oct	Londonderry Exercise Areas	0803 CARISBROOKE CASTLE F379 left harbour 0830 Slipped. TENACIOUS and CRISPIN in company for exercises 0910 Co & Sp for "Birdlop" 1320 Alongside D Berth Lisahally 1640 7 ratings joined from RNB Chatham
03 Oct	Lisahally > Londonderry           Londonderry	0918-1115 USS D763 ( <i>USS J Williams Jnr</i> ) secured at Oiling Jetty C berth 0922-1122 USS D653 ( <i>USS Knapp</i> ) secured at Oiling Jetty B Berth 0945-1028 CO calls on US Destroyers 1050 HM S/M THULE left harbour 1055 TENACIOUS slipped 1055-1101 Captain (TS3) on board 1141 Slipped and proceeded 1202 Secured alongside 19 Berth Londonderry 1220-1331 TS3 Captain "D" on board to visit CO 1250-1445 Rear Admiral S..... on board 1331 1 PO + 5 Ratings on draft RNB Chatham <i>(log signed my ...James)</i>
04 Oct	Londonderry	130 Hands to Divisions 1140-1310 Captain D on board 1140-1240 Admiral i/c Education on board
05 Oct	Londonderry	<i>(Log signed by Ian RT or PJ Robertson Sub Lieut)</i>
06 Oct	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	0610 HM s/m THULE left harbour 0750 1 rating left the ship 0803 Slipped from 17/18 Berth 1117 S/M THULE dived bearing 048 1544 Came to stbd anchor (Movice Lt 350° Salt pans Lt 255°)
07 Oct	Anchored Magillan Bay	0235 "Binoculars No. 74788 lost on 2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct discovered in Ops Room" 0820 1 rating joined ship from RNB Chatham
08 Oct	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	0917 Weighed and proceeded 1000 Commenced LJX9 1500 Commenced A/S attacks 1825 Secured 18 Berth
17 Oct	Londonderry	1100 PICKLE entered harbour
22 Oct	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	0840 Tug alongside. Slipped from 17/18 Berth. 0843 Slipped tug. 1130-1639 LJX 21



		1800-2305 LIX 22 ( <i>Londonderry Joint Exercises?</i> )
23 Oct	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	0805-0850 Anchored at Magilligan Bay 0835 4 <sup>th</sup> DS entered anchorage 1236 LIX11 1727 Anchored Magilligan Bay
24 Oct	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	0830 Weighed 1010 Manoeuvred for submarine exercises 1635 Secured alongside TENACIOUS at 17/18 Berth
25 Oct	Londonderry	1010-1240 Captain ashore to washup
26 Oct	Londonderry	0200 Clocks put back one hour
27 Oct	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	0840 Slipped and proceeded to Lisahally Berth C to refuel 0930-1200 Secured alongside CRISPIN at Lisahally jetty C Berth 1245 Shifted to B Berth. RELENTLESS and CRISPIN warped ahead together ( <i>CORUNNA at C, AISNE and BARROSA at D</i> ) 1625 Slipped from B Berth Lisahally
28 Oct	Bangor Bay	0140 Came to stbd anchor Bangor Bay
29 Oct	Londonderry and Exercise Areas Bangor Bay to Moville	0520 Weighed and proceeded 0650 Took guide – ships in LA ( <i>line ahead</i> ) RELENTLESS, LOCH VEYATIE, CRISPIN, CREOLE, TENACIOUS 1012 Anchor at Magilligan 1800 RML 196 left with Operation BOMBEAT party for Londonderry
30 Oct	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	0550 Weighed and proceeded 0535 Port watch to Defence Stations 1640 Secured alongside LOCH VEYATIE 19 Berth 1750 2 ratings joined from RNB Chatham 1915-2120 Captain “D” on board with guests
31 Oct	Londonderry	1345 1 rating to RNSQ Eglinton 1400 5 ratings on draft to RNB Chatham and HMS Mercury
03 Nov	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	0827 Slipped 1253 Comex. Co & Sp for A/S Action (5 charges dropped)
04 Nov	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	0327-0735 Anchored Magilligan Bay 0920 Secured alongside CREOLE
05 Nov	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	0827 Slipped and proceeded for Convoy Exercise 1600 Dan Buoy stave broken and washed overboard 1930 One rolled? Fairlead lost due to weather
06 Nov	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	0815-1153 anchored Magilligan 1310-1605 Secured at C Berth Lisahally for fuelling 1630 Secured alongside CRISPIN 17/18 berth 1 rating drafted to STALKER 1715 2 ratings joined ship from HMS Sea Eagle 2020-2245 Lower Deck cleared to secure hurricane hawser forward
08 Nov	Londonderry	1410 1 rating on draft RNB Chatham 1 rating compassionate leave
09 Nov	Londonderry	0915 Guard and unarmed party landed for Remembrance day service at ?Diamond? Londonderry 1020-1102 Divisions
11 Nov	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	0818 Slipped A/S exercises 2030 Anchored Magilligan
12 Nov	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	0930 Weighed and proceeded for A/S exercises 1735 Anchored Magilligan
13 Nov	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	0830 Weighed 0958 Secured 19 Berth



		1045 Vice Admiral CM EVANS-LOMBE CB on board ( <i>Deputy Chief of Naval Staff</i> )
14 Nov	Londonderry and Exercise areas	0715 Slipped 1500 Secured alongside CREOLE 17/18 Berth
15 Nov	Londonderry	1130 Divisions 1150 Clear lower deck for talk by Captain on the QD
17 Nov	Londonderry > Campbeltown	0735 Slipped 1002 Fired pattern of 5 HE Limbo 1135 Exercises with SCOTSMAN, CRISPIN and TENACIOUS 1745 Secured at Campbeltown
18 Nov	Campbeltown	0845 Slipped 1020-1320 Exercises with HM submarine SCOTSMAN 1502 Secured alongside Campbeltown ( <i>Log signed by ?A Boase?</i> )
19 Nov	Campbeltown > Londonderry	0835 Slipped – exercises with SCOTSMAN 1715 Anchored in F Berth Movable
20 Nov	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	0927 Weighed exercises with CREOLE 1701 Secured at Lisahally
21 Nov	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	1215 Secured alongside Londonderry
22 Nov	Londonderry	0905 1 rating discharged to HMS Sea Eagle 1130 2 ratings joined ship from RNB Chatham
23 Nov	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	1325 2 ratings joined ship from HMS Mercury
24 Nov	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	1020 Slipped from 18 Berth
25 Nov	Londonderry	0900 Secured alongside 1310 PO Tel Barclay drafted to SOLEBAY
26 Nov	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	1035 Slipped from 17 Berth
27 Nov	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	1735 Secured alongside CREOLE
28 Nov	Londonderry	1330 1 rating draft to RNB Chatham
01 Dec	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	0755 Slip and proceed to sea – Convoy screening exercise
02 Dec	Londonderry and Exercise Areas	0140 Came to stbd anchor at Movable 0730 Weighed and proceed up harbour 0901 Secured alongside 17/18 Berth at Londonderry port side to
		<b>December still to come</b>

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