

Transcript of Audio Clip with Kenneth Taylor

The first day we left the barracks where we all passed out we went to Chatham Dockyard itself and the whole ship, well, with the Royal Marines Master because it's not too far from the Royal Marines barracks down to the barracks and the HMS Pembroke which is a Naval barracks on the other side, we all got into one train at the dockyard. The whole ship's company was – the advance guard had already gone and we all went up by train straight from Chatham up to John Bell's dockyard in Glasgow, where we joined the ship. They'd just come back from the Mediterranean, had a re-fit so, of course, as soon as that was finished we had to go out on sea trials. After that we took part with the home fleet all up round the North Sea looking for mine-laying ships and things like that and escorted an aircraft carrier so we were flying planes off. Then after we came back from there we went to Rosyth Dockyard, had a quick re-fit, small re-fit, there and then went round to Liverpool picked up the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester at Liverpool and escorted the SS Rimutaka out to Ceylon where the New Zealand and Australian Navy took over from us there. We stayed there and joined with the East Indies fleet and they carried on to Australia, so at that time we stayed with the East Indies fleet until the British Pacific fleet was formed the following – the following year or sort of thing.