NOTES FROM SEA

EXAMINATION OF PORT MAIN ENGINE THURST AND ADJUSTING BLOCK

(Planned maintenance item M111b 2A1)

On opening up the port main engine thrust and adjusting block of a LEANDER Class frigate for inspection in accordance with the above planned maintenance item, the top halves of the forward and astern thrust-pad assemblies were found to be missing. The bottom halves of the assemblies were removed and found to be in good condition with little or no wear. A complete new set of thrust-pads and top half backing rings were fitted and axial clearances taken.

Records indicated that this planned maintenance item had been last carried out on the port main engine two years previously during a DED period. The planned maintenance item was last carried out on the starboard engine one year later during the refit; the top halves were confirmed to be present in this engine during an AMP in 1979.

Comment by C.-in-C. Fleet Staff

The report forwarded is noted. The fact that the port main engine thrust and adjusting block appears to have run satisfactorily since February 1977 with the top half thrust-pad assemblies missing is remarkable.

No further action is intended at this late date although it would be prudent to examine the bearing during the ship's next AMP. Ship's officers are to inform the officer responsible, at the likely time that the thrust-pads and backing rings were removed, of the circumstances reported.