

Headfor P/L ABN 84073495557 T/As

McLennans Diving Service



- Marine Contractors

Unit 15, 75 Corish Circle, PAGEWOOD Australia 2035 PO Box 6209 Malabar NSW 2036

Phone +61 (02) 9700 0877 ♦ Fax +61 (02) 9700 1877 ♦

Email: email@mclennan.com.au Web: www.mclennan.com.au

To Guy Russell,
Department of Lands

Ex-HMAS Adelaide Starboard Hangar Wall Report

Our dive team visited the Adelaide wreck on May 18th, 2015 shortly after two significant east Coast Lows passed through. We found that the starboard hangar wall was missing for a length of 10.5m horizontally and its full height vertically.

There are four vertical frames missing which have sheared off at their weld points to the deck. At the top of the wall the frames have sheared off the corresponding roof frames, taking the knee braces with them.

There is a loose section of wall at the forward end of the gap, which is cracked horizontally for 700mm near the top and bottom. This section was not moving in the swell, but will presumably break off in the next big swell.

The missing wall has relieved pressure on the remaining hangar as the water flow can now pass through the hangar more easily. However this effect is offset by the fact that one side of the roof is now completely unsupported. There appears to be no continuous structural beam running along the edge of the roof. I expect that the roof will tear apart without much resistance when the next significant swell hits. Hopefully it will lift off and be deposited on the seabed. If it collapses downwards it will be a significant obstruction.

I have compared the missing section to the almost identical hangar on HMAS Melbourne. The following photos show the comparisons.

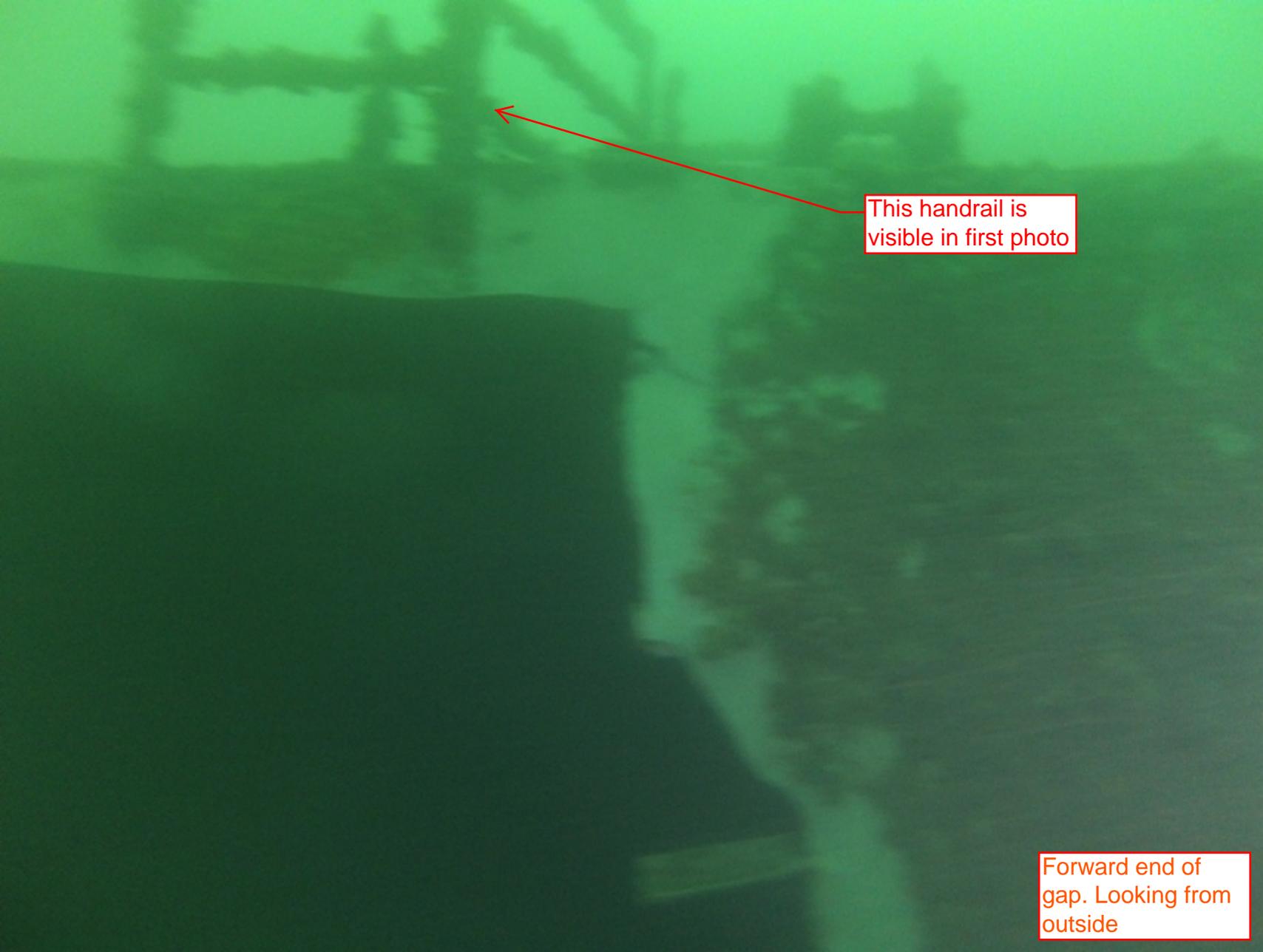
Thank you for asking us to inspect this interesting vessel,

Alan McLennan, Diving Supervisor.
10 June 2015

Starboard Side of HMAS Melbourne. Click on Green squares for detailed photo

This section of Starboard Hangar is missing





This handrail is visible in first photo

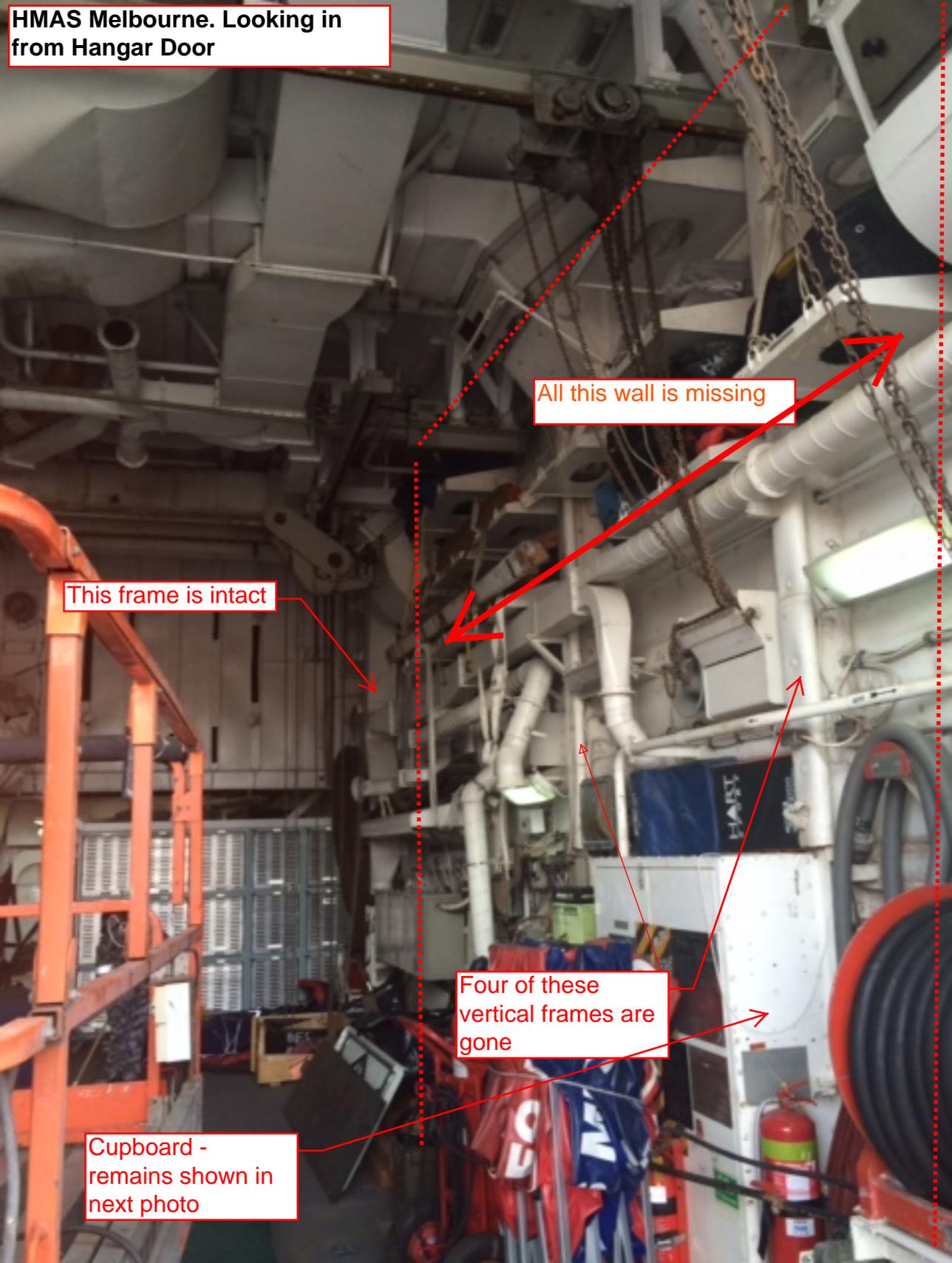
Forward end of gap. Looking from outside

Adelaide Stbd Hangar Wall

Remains of AC
intake

Aft end of gap.
Looking from inside

HMAS Melbourne. Looking in from Hangar Door



This frame is intact

All this wall is missing

Four of these vertical frames are gone

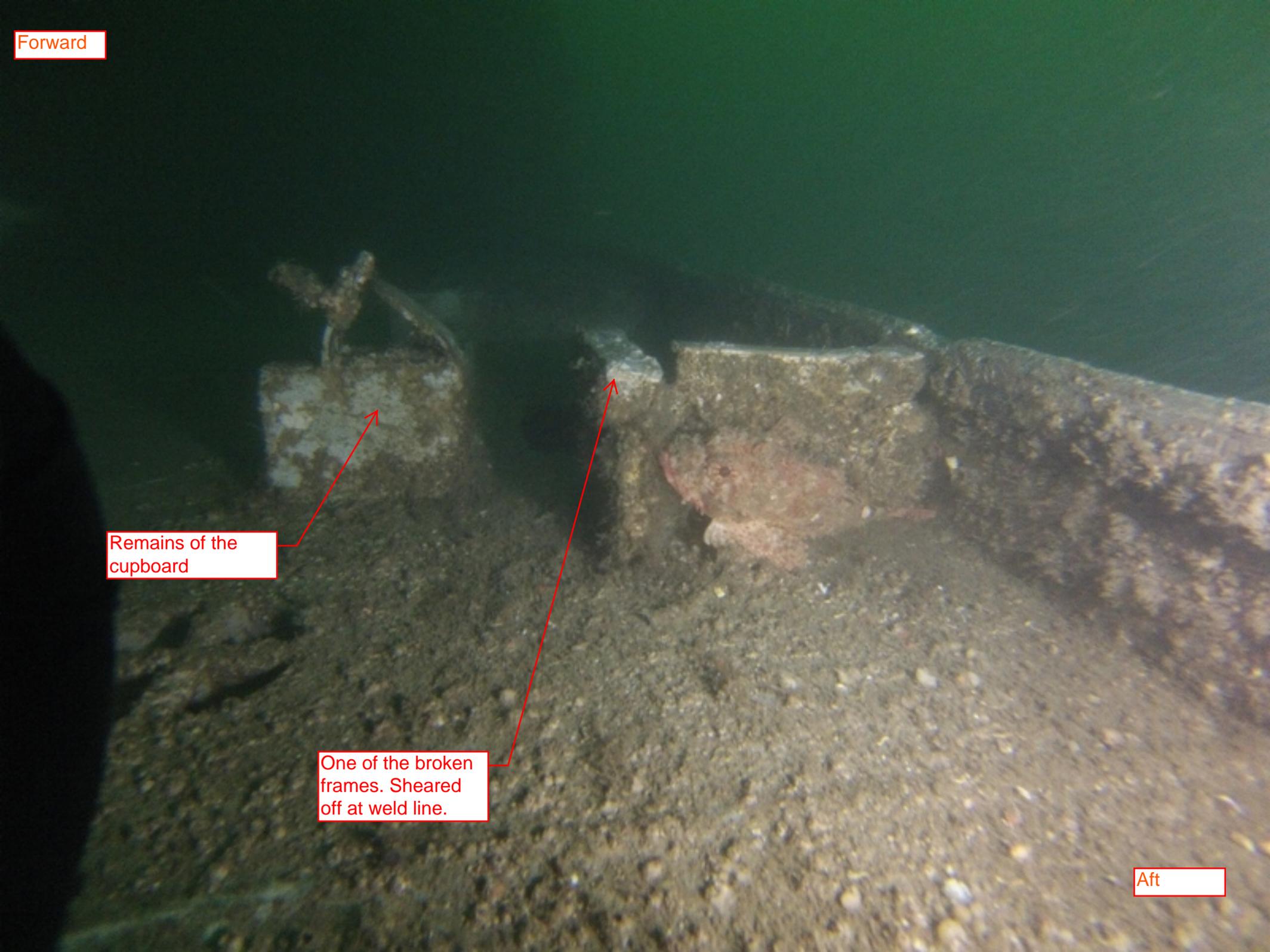
Cupboard - remains shown in next photo

Forward

Remains of the
cupboard

One of the broken
frames. Sheared
off at weld line.

Aft



Looking Forward
from the inside.

Forward

This is the first
intact frame forward
of the missing wall.
Note weld line
which is the weak
point that all the
frames failed at.

Crack at base of
wall. View from the
other side shown
on page 11



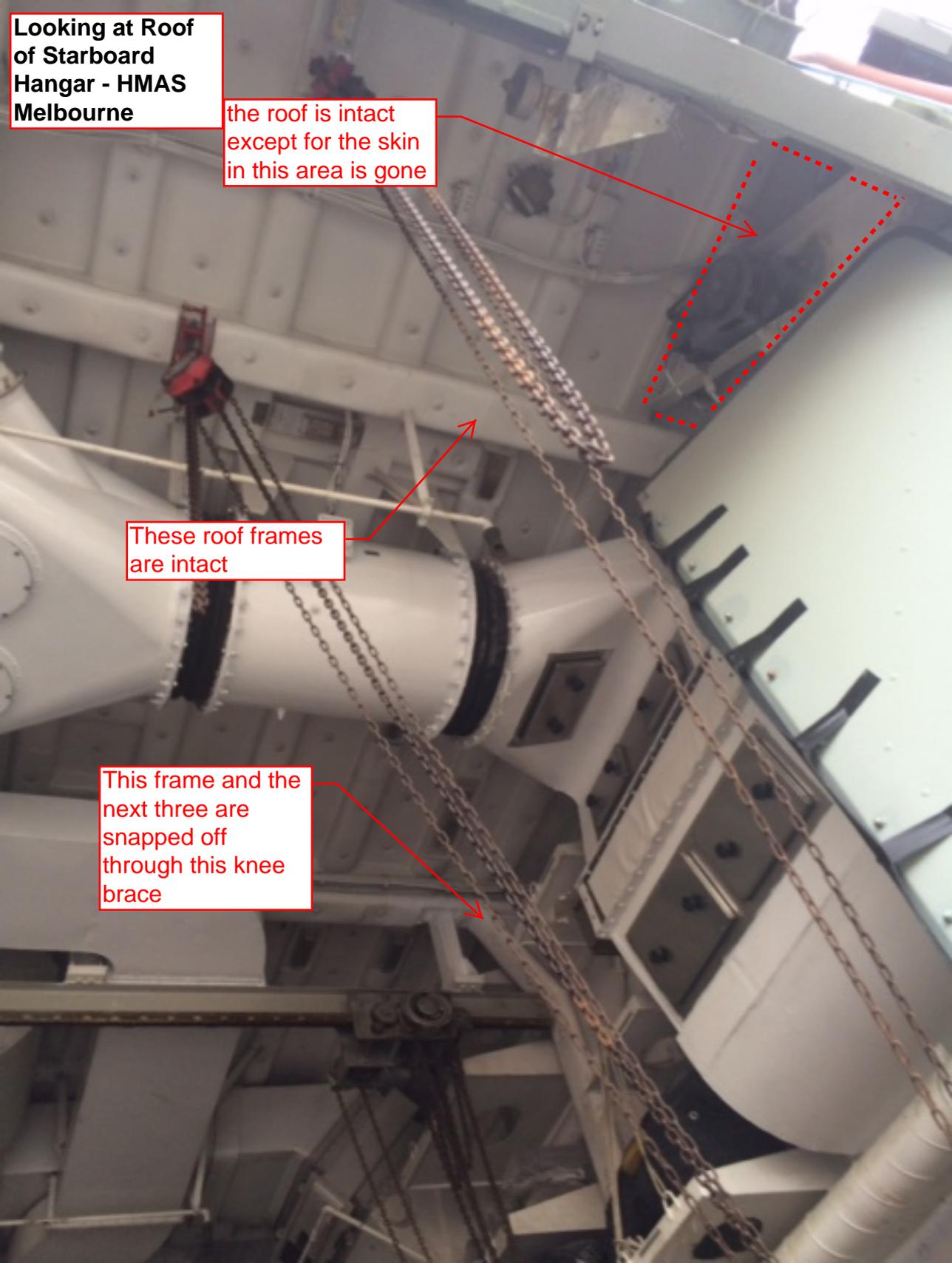
**Looking at Roof
of Starboard
Hangar - HMAS
Melbourne**

the roof is intact
except for the skin
in this area is gone



These roof frames
are intact

This frame and the
next three are
snapped off
through this knee
brace



Adelaide Stbd Hangar Wall

This shows the surviving knee brace at the roof on the fwd side of the break

Adelaide Stbd Hangar Wall

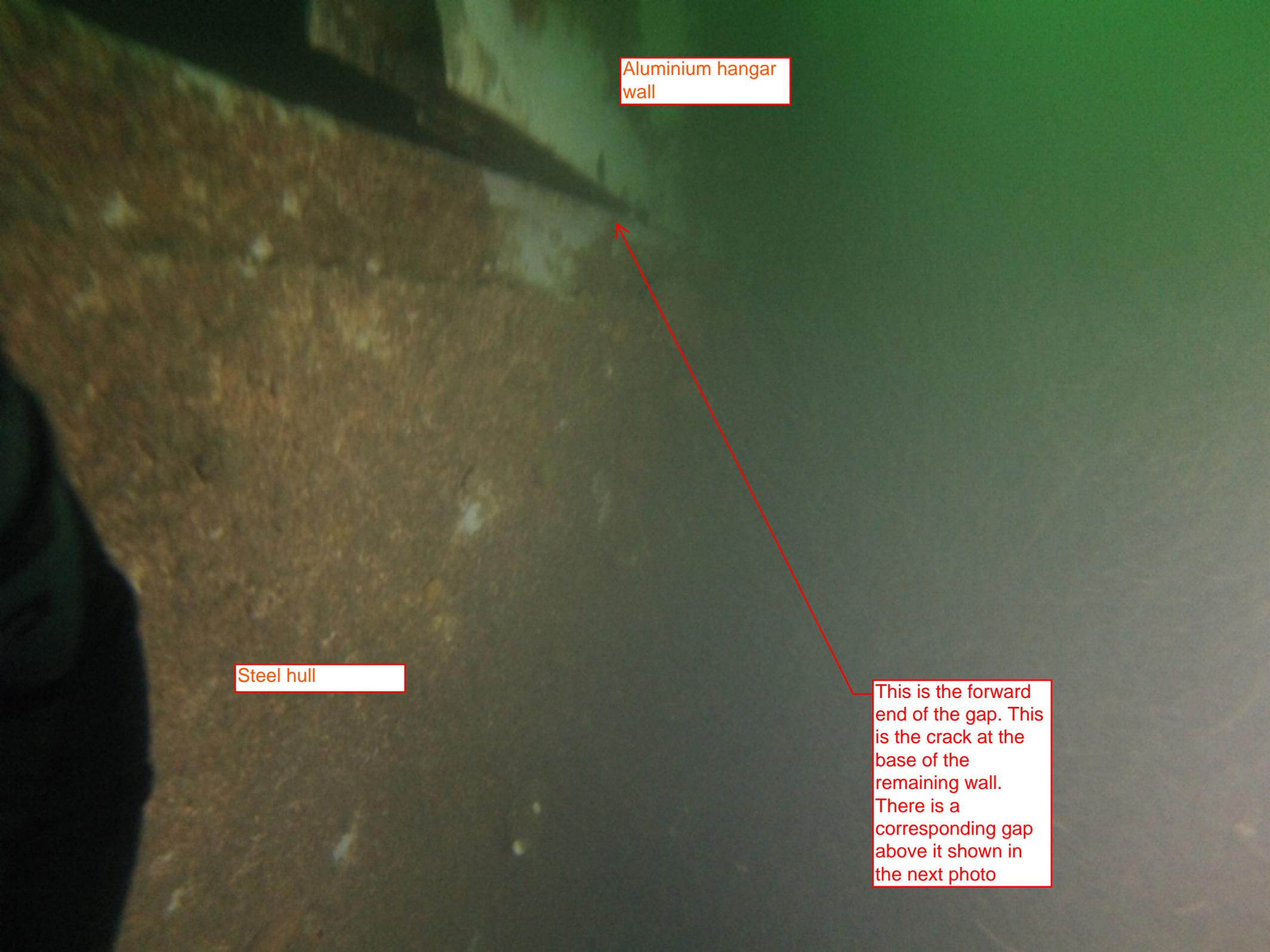


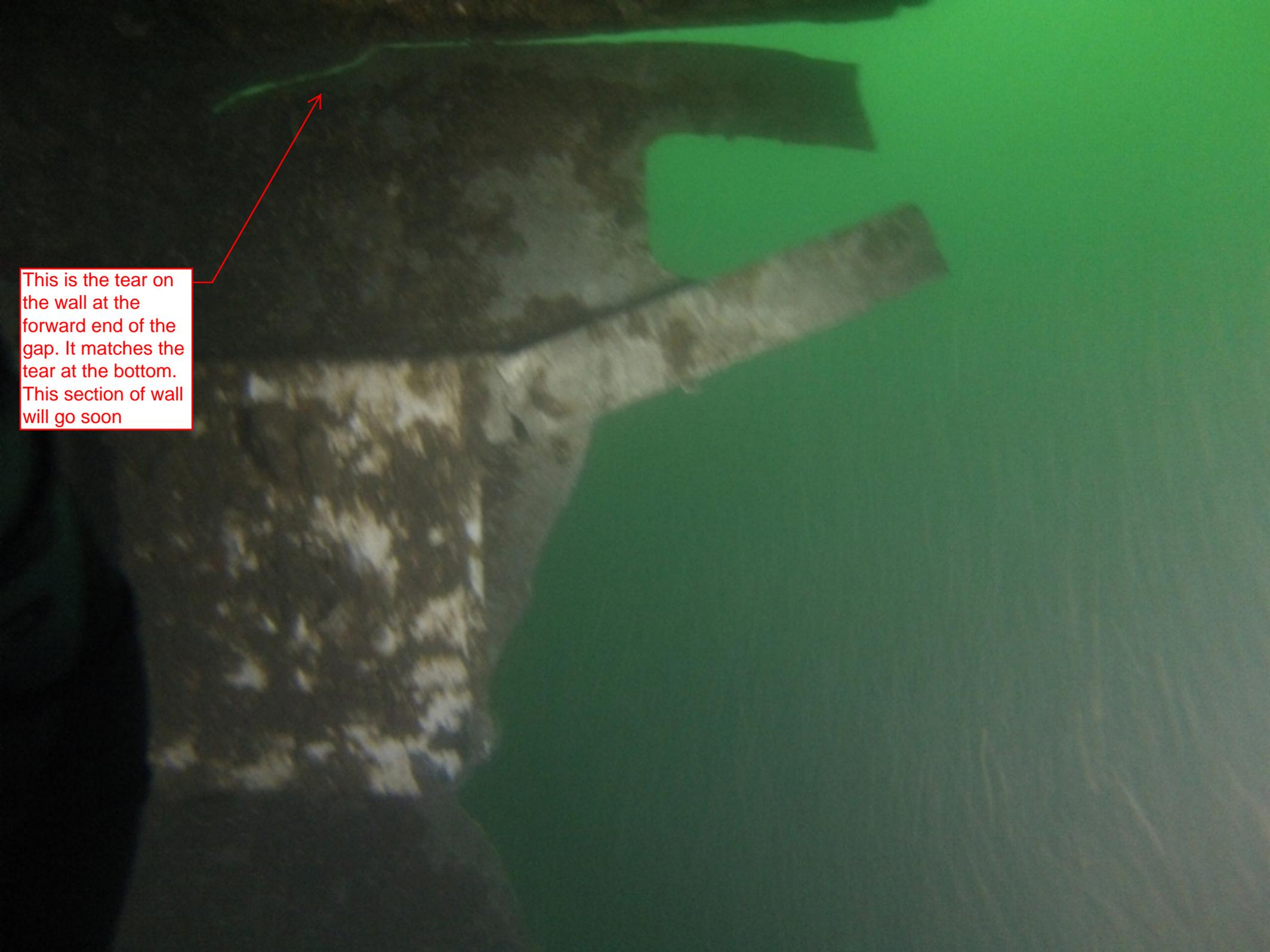
This is the edge of the upper deck above the break. There is no longitudinal beam to prevent further tearing of the roof,

Aluminium hangar
wall

Steel hull

This is the forward
end of the gap. This
is the crack at the
base of the
remaining wall.
There is a
corresponding gap
above it shown in
the next photo





This is the tear on the wall at the forward end of the gap. It matches the tear at the bottom. This section of wall will go soon