

H.M.B. *De BRAAK* HISTORICAL CHRONOLOGY

1781

PROBABLE CONSTRUCTION DATE FOR THE ADMIRALTY OF THE MAAS.  
PERIOD OF 4TH ANGLO-DUTCH WAR

1781-1795

DUTCH SERVICE (IN MEDITERANEAN SQUADRON, 1785);  
WAR WITH REVOLUTIONARY FRANCE BEGINS, 1792

1795

18 JUNE, *De BRAAK* CAPTURED BY H.M. SLOOP *FORTUNE* AT  
FALMOUTH

27 JUNE, *De BRAAK* AND *FORTUNE* SAIL FOR PLYMOUTH

26 AUGUST, *De BRAAK* AND OTHER DUTCH VESSELS SURVEYED AT  
PLYMOUTH YARD

1796

8 SEPTEMBER , SURVEY COMPLETED, *De BRAAK* FOUND SEAWORTHY  
19 SEPTEMBER, CONVERTED TO 2 MASTED BRIG

1797

13 JUNE, *De BRAAK* BEGINS WAGES AND VICTUALLING, COMMANDER  
JAMES DREW APPOINTED TO COMMAND

7 JULY-DECEMBER, SERVICE ON CONVOY DUTY ALONG BRITISH ISLES  
EARLY DECEMBER, IN TO PLYMOUTH FOR REFITTING

24 DECEMBER, RECEIVED ORDERS TO FIT FOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CONVOY  
ESCORT DUTY TO NORTH AMERICA

1798

17 FEBURARY, *De BRAAK*\_STILL AT PLYMOUTH FOR REFITTING

26 MARCH, *De BRAAK*\_JOINS H.M.S. *ST. ALBANS* AT CORK, IRELAND  
CONVOY OF 34 ANGLO-AMERICAN SHIPS ASSEMBLED

30 MARCH, CONVOY DEPARTS FOR NORTH AMERICAN PORTS

APRIL, ATLANTIC CROSSING, SEVERE STORM DISPERSES CONVOY.

HISTORICAL EVIDENCE SUGGESTS THAT *De BRAAK* BECAME SEPARATED  
FROM THE CONVOY AND WAS UNABLE TO REUNITE WITH IT  
THROUGHOUT THE REMAINDER OF ITS CRUISE.

3 MAY, *De BRAAK* CAPTURES SPANISH PRIZE OFF NORTH AMERICAN COAST  
MAY, NEWSPAPERS RECORD CONVOY OFF AMERICAN COAST AND SHIPS  
ENTERING VARIOUS PORTS (PHILADELPHIA, BOSTON, NORFOLK,  
BALTIMORE, CHARLESTON)

24 MAY, CONVOY OFF CHESAPEAKE BAY, *De BRAAK* NOT PRESENT

24-25 MAY, CONVOY ARRIVES IN DELAWARE BAY

25 MAY, CONVOY WITH *ST. ALBANS* DEPARTS DELAWARE BAY 1:00 P.M.

*De BRAAK* ARRIVES IN DELAWARE BAY AT 4:00 P.M., IS CAPSIZED BY  
SQUALL AND SINKS

23 JULY, H.M.S. *ASSISTANCE*, ARRIVES IN DELAWARE BAY TO EXAMINE  
WRECK SITE FOR POSSIBILITY OF RECOVERY

25 SEPTEMBER, SALVAGE VESSELS H.M.S. *VIXEN* AND *HIND* ARRIVE IN  
DELAWARE BAY. SALVAGE OPERATIONS COMMENCE, ALL ATTEMPTS ARE  
UNSUCCESSFUL

20 OCTOBER, REPORT TO BRITISH ADMIRALTY THAT ALL POSSIBLE MEANS  
HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED TO RECOVER THE *De BRAAK*. BRITISH ADMIRALTY  
SATISFIED AND TAKES NO FURTHER ACTION