

15 January 1988. Position: 43-32.2S, 147-55.0E. After a brief visit from Australia's Prime Minister, Robert Hawke, **EAGLE** departed Hobart as thousands of well wishers saw her off. Preparations for the Hobart to Sydney race kept **EAGLE**'s crew busy. The harbor was crowded with hundreds of small craft which escorted **EAGLE** to the starting line of the race. The race of 160 entrants began promptly at 1430 with a very light wind. Within three hours of the start, the wind picked up providing strong northeasterly winds for competitive sailing. At 0200 **EAGLE** made a tack leaving the Polish training tall ship *Dar Młodzieży* 600 yards to leeward. As the sun rose the Polish entry was 15 nautical miles south of **EAGLE**.

