

**Series: AWM95**  
**Australian Army commanders' diaries**  
**[Vietnam]**

**Service Corps units**

**Item number: 10/4/1**

**Item: Detachment 176 Air Despatch**  
**Company**

**Narrative**

**[24-31 May 1966]**

COVERING LETTER

Reference No. S1

To: OIC, Military History Section, AHQ.

1. I enclose Commanders Diary (AF C 2118) (Adapted) as indicated at Part 2.

2. Please return receipt below.

(Signature) [Signature] Capt

Appointment OC Det 176 AD Coy RAASC  
(OC Unit or senior staff officer)

**SECRET**

ORIGINAL }  
DUPLICATE } Strike out where  
                  } not applicable

**COMMANDERS DIARY**

OF

Unit or Formation Det 176 Air Dispatch Coy RAASC

From 24 May 66 To 31 May 66

**INDEX**

Narrative (AF C 2118)

ANNEXES

- \* A Duty officer's log
- \* B Messages connected with log
- C Operation orders and instructions issued
- D Operation orders and instructions received
- \* E Sitreps issued
- F Orders of battle and location reports issued
- G Intelligence reports and summaries issued; appreciations made
- H Administrative orders and instructions issued
- I Administrative orders and instructions received
- J Administrative reports and bulletins; ammunition returns; field strength returns
- \* K Standing orders issued
- L Commander's policy and demi-official letters
- M Action reports (if required)
- N Other papers, eg, maps and diagrams, air photos, reports from sub units
- O Periodical summaries of operations
- Z Top Secret Supplementary Diary

Enclosure Numbers

to	.....
to	.....
to	.....
to	.....
to	.....
to	.....
to	.....
to	.....
to	.....
to	.....
to	.....
to	.....

\* Only to be included during operations.  
† Cross out whichever is not applicable.

† NIL  
† RETAINED  
† Despatched to

on.....

## PART 3

# COMMANDERS DIARIES INSTRUCTIONS

### AIM

1. The aim of a Commanders Diary is to provide data on which to base future improvements in Army training, equipment, organization and administration, and to furnish historians with a record of the activities of units and formations in operational and non-operational periods in peace and in war.

### GENERAL

2. Entries are to be made daily on AF C 2118 (Adapted) each entry being initialled by the officer detailed to keep it.
3. Commanders Diaries will conform with the rules for drafting orders given in "Staff Duties (Australia)" Chapter 2, Section 12.

### RESPONSIBILITY

#### During Non-operational Periods

4. A Commanders Diary is to be compiled by commanders of all formations.

#### During Operational Periods (1)

5. A Commanders Diary is to be compiled in duplicate by:
  - a. Commanders of all formations.
  - b. Each branch of the staff at formation headquarters commanded by a brigadier or above.
  - c. Heads of services not below the rank of lieutenant colonel.
  - d. Personal staffs and officers holding special appointments.
  - e. Unit commanders.
  - f. Commanders of a detachment of a unit when so ordered.

### COMPILATION

6. Both original and duplicate copies are to consist of:
  - a. Cover (AF C 2119) (Adapted).
  - b. Index as printed on cover.
  - c. Narrative (AF C 2118) (Adapted).
  - d. Annexes as shown in the Index.
7. All details of the unit or formation (if a detachment is concerned, the name of the parent unit), period covered and enclosure numbers of the annexes are to be shown on the cover. If there has been a change of command since the last report, the date of assumption by the new commanding officer is to be included.
8. The annexes are to be assembled in the groups shown on the cover. If there are no enclosures for an annex NIL will be entered on the cover. If additional annexes are convenient for a particular headquarters, starting at B.

for operations form Annex "Z", "TOP SECRET" the document. It is to be prepared and disposed of as

### ITEMS

as well as map references), establishment, equipment and orders given. The day's fighting, including company movements. Commander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

tential importance. officers, men and equipment. element captured. employed in the time not accounted for. The type of

and to save work as much information as possible is to be included. Issuances issued and received, routine returns, etc. All and the time of receipt or despatch is to be given.

the annexes, but need not give a precis of any of them.

(continued on back cover)

## DISPOSAL

13. **Original Commander's Diary.** This is to be forwarded monthly, unless otherwise ordered, by the seventh day of the succeeding month direct to AHQ.

14. **Duplicate Commander's Diary.** This must be clearly marked as a duplicate. It is to be sent separately from the original to AHQ one month after the original has been despatched but not before the former has been acknowledged.

15. When overseas, both copies of diaries are to be sent through the Army Records organization in the overseas theatre but at different times.

16. **TOP SECRET Supplementary Diaries.**

a. The documents referred to in Paragraph 9 together with a list of them made out on AF C 2118 (Adapted) must be placed in separate cover (AF C 2119) (Adapted). All details must be filled in and the cover clearly marked in red: "ANNEX Z — OFFICER ONLY". It may be convenient to group the papers by appendices.

b. Supplementary diaries must be forwarded under the normal rules for TOP SECRET correspondence, to AHQ. The inner envelope must be plainly marked:

TOP SECRET

ANNEX Z to

Commanders Diary of..... (Formation or Unit)

From..... to..... (Dates)

c. The duplicate supplementary diaries must be despatched as shown in Paragraph 14 as soon as receipt of the original has been acknowledged.

## COMPILATION

Both original and duplicate copies are to consist of:

- Cover (AF C 2119) (Adapted).
- Index as printed on cover.
- Narrative (AF C 2118) (Adapted).
- Annexes as shown in the Index.

7. All details of the unit or formation (if a detachment is concerned the name of the parent unit), period covered and enclosure numbers of the annexes are to be shown on the cover. If there has been a change of command since the last report, the date of assumption by the new commanding officer is to be shown.

8. The annexes are to be assembled in the groups shown on the cover. If there are no annexes, the word "None" will be entered on the cover. If additional annexes are convenient for a particular day, they are to be numbered in sequence with the others.

For operations form Annex "Z", "TOP SECRET" the document. It is to be prepared and despatched as follows:

## CONTENTS

as well as map references), establishment, equipment

1 orders given.

2 day's fighting, including company movements.

3 annexes with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

4 tactical importance.

5 officers, men and equipment.

6 men captured.

7 employed in the time not accounted for. The type of

and to save work as much information as possible is to be included: orders issued and received, routine returns, etc. All details and the time of receipt or despatch is to be given.

10 annexes, but need not give a précis of any of them.

(continued on back cover)

# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR MAY 1966

REFERENCE MAP VIETNAM XA BINH BA 1:50,000

UNIT/FORMATION Det 176 AD Co RAASC

COMMANDING OFFICER Capt DR WOOLMER

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
Garden Island NSW	24	2230 Z	7 members of unit embarked HMAS SYDNEY en route for VIETNAM	Cal
RICHMOND NSW	26	1400 Z	34 members of unit departed by MAC Ac en route for VIETNAM	Cal
GR 297444	27	0330 Z	34 members of unit arrived SAIGON by MAC Ac. Stores and personnel ferried to VUNG TAU by USAF C130 Ac. Accommodation provided in 1 ALSG complex in 1 Coy RAASC Area.	Cal
GR 297444	28		Day spent in introducing all personnel to daily routine, improving accommodation and settling in.	Cal
GR 297444	29		Erection of further accommodation and the preparation and improvement of defence works.	Cal
GR 297444	30		OC discussed location and employment of the unit with Comd 1 ALSG and OC 1 Coy RAASC. Unit to be located VUNG TAU Airfield as soon as accommodation stores are available. Employment of unit appears to be unlikely in its correct rôle, unless the road re supply fails.	Cal
GR 297444	31		In view of the almost nonexistent air resupply work, liaison has been effected with Det 9 8th Aerial Port Sqn USAF for the unit to assist in the loading, unloading of USAF Aircraft. 1 AD Section per day has been allocated to this task. Other unit personnel engaged in local administration.	Cal
			1 Coy RAASC	