# Series: AWM95 Australian Army commanders' diaries

Headquarters units

Item number: 1/1/69

Item: Headquarters Australian Army Force, Far East Land Forces

Narrative

Annexes

[1-28 Feb 1968]

PART 2

AF C 2119 (Adapted)
Revised Jun, 1965

#### COVERING LETTER

Reference No. R707-2-1G

To: OIC, Military History Section, AHQ.

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

Please return receipt below.

(Signature).

Appointment Comd HQ AAF FARELF
(OC Unit or senior staff officer)

# SECRET

ORIGINAL DUPLICATEXX Strike out where not applicable

# COMMANDERS DIARY

Unit or Formation HQ AAF FARELF

From 1st February 1968

To 28th February 1968

INDEX

Narrative (AF C 2118)

### ANNEXES

- Duty officer's log
- Messages connected with log
- Operation orders and instructions issued
- Operation orders and instructions received
- Sitreps issued
- Orders of battle and location reports issued
- Intelligence reports and summaries issued; appreciations made
- Administrative orders and instructions issued
- Administrative orders and instructions received
- Administrative reports and bulletins; ammunition returns; field strength returns
- Standing orders issued
- Commander's policy and demi-official letters
- Action reports (if required)
- Other papers, eg, maps and diagrams, air photos, reports from sub unit
- Periodical summaries of operations
- Top Secret Supplementary Diary
  - \* Only to be included during operations.
  - † Cross out whichever is not applicable.

Enclosure Numbers

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# 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 NII will be entered on the cover. If additional annexes are convenient for a particular headquarters. arting at B.

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

### ENTS

s as well as map references), establishment, equipment

orders given.

e day's fighting, including company movements.

mander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

ential importance.

officers, men and equipment.

ment captured.

mployed in the time not accounted for. The type of

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

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

(continued on back cover)

1 BP Coy-274/65-55m

#### 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(I	Dates)

7. All details of the unit or formation (if a detachment is concerned, the name of the parent well), period?

The nanexes are to be assembled in the groups shown on the cover. If which me he enclinions for

annual release of a richarderment of a unit when so virticized

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

This form will be enclosed with the annexes in AF C 2119. If this is not available the cover will be prepared in manuscript.

### COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION HQ AAF FARELF

COMMANDING OFFICER BRIG CMI PEARSON OBE MO

MONTH AND YEAR FEBRUARY 1968

Place and grid reference	Day of Month	Hour	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
SINGAPORE	982	04312	Unit Weekly Report ending 3 Feb 68 - to AHQ	Hl
	05	0930Z	Malaysia/Singapore Sitrep - from FARELF	E1
	13	0430Z	Unit Weekly Report ending 10 Feb 68 - to AHQ	Н2
	13	0830Z	Malaysia/Singapore Sitrep - from FARELF	E2
	19	0925Z	Malaysia/Singapore Sitrep - from FARELF	E3
	26	0900Z	Malaysia/Singapore Sitrep - from FARELF	E4

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R723,	m /		FEB 68
PRECEDENCE - ACTION	PRECEDENCE - INFO	DATE - TIME GROUP	MESSAGE INSTRUCTIONS
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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

## SECRET

RECEDENCE ACTION

PRECEDENCE INFO

DATE TIME GROUP

MONTH YEAR

ROUTINE

05 0930 z

FEB 68

FROM: FARELF

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:

MOD (ARMY)

SECRET

AHQ CANBERRA

ORIGINATOR'S NUMBER

AHQ WELLINGTON

KLK

TPS HONG KONG

HQ 17DIV/MALAYA DIST

28 BDE

48 BDE

99 BDE

3 CDO BDE

### MALAYSIA/SINGAPORE SITREP AS AT 050001 Z

1. ENEMY (.)

A (.) SINGAPORE (.) NTR

B (.) WEST MALAYSIA (.)

- 1. ON 22 JAN 68 ONE THAI MUSLIM CT SURRENDERED IN WENG DISTRICT (.)
  ONE HOME MADE PISTOL RECOVERED (.) DETAINED WENG POLICE STATION (.)
  2. ON 28 JAN 68 JOINT SF OPERATING ON OP SALAM ARRESTED SEVEN MALE
  THAI MUSLIMS BELIEVED TO BE CT SUPPORTERS IN BANNANG SATA DISTRICT OF
  SOUTHERN THAILAND (.) A FURTHER TWENTY FIVE MALE THAI MUSLIMS WERE
  ARRESTED AS SUSPECT SUPPORTERS OF TEN REGIMENT ABDULLAH CD'S GROUP (.)
- C (.) EAST MALAYSIA (.)

SARAWAK THIRD DIVISION (.) ON 24 JAN 68 MALAYSIAN PFF LOCATED THREE CAMPS EACH FOR 6 - 7 PERSONS AT SG LABA GR 087128 SARIKEI DISTRICT (.) CAMPS BELIEVED TO BE EIGHTEEN MONTHS OLD WERE UNDERGROUND AND BOOBY TRAPPED (.) LARGE QUANTITY DOCUS AND PRINTING EQUIPMENT RECOVERED (.) SOME DOCUS FOUND BURNING ON PFF ARRIVAL (.)

D (.) MAURITIUS (.)

- 1. IT IS THOUGHT THAT LIKELY TROUBLE SPOTS ARE MAHEBOURG CMM SITUATED NORTH OF PLAISANCE AIRFIELD CMM AND THE CREOLE DOMINATED DOCK AREA IN PORT LOUIS (.)
- 2. A DUSK TILL DAWN CURFEW IS BEING IMPOSED IN PORT LOUIS AREA WITH SUCCESS (.)
- 3. MAJOR INCIDENTS ARE ON THE DECREASE (.)
- 2. OWN TROOPS (.)
  - A. FLAG MARCHES (.) THESE HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN PORT LOUIS AND NORTH EASTERN AREA OF ISLAND AND WERE WELL RECEIVED (.)

PAGE NO 1 OF 2

### SECRET

## SECRET

- B. REINFORCEMENTS (.) A FIFTH PLATOON AND SIOUX HELICOPTER WERE FINAL OUT FROM SINGAPORE 050200 Z (.)
- C. <u>DEPLOYMENT (.)</u> ON ARRIVAL OF PLATOON IT IS INTENDED TO POSITION ONE PLATOON IN NORTH EASTERN AREA OF ISLAND CMM KEEP A MINIMUM OF TWO PLATOONS IN PORT LOUIS AND ALLOW ONE PLATOON TO GET SOME REST (.)
- D. OPERATIONS (.) COMBINED POLICE/MILITARY OPERATIONS CONTINUE
  RESULTING IN ARREST OF TROUBLE MAKERS (.)

DRAFTER'S	NAME H.M. du V. LOHAN
BRANCH	G (OPERATIONS)
TEL NO _	2345
RELEASING SIGNATURE	OFFICER'S Howlle
NAME	H.M. du V. LOHAN
RANK	CAPTAIN

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TPS BONG KONG

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### INTERNAL

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(MA MANILA)

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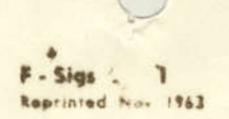
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PAGE NO 2 OF 2

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### SECRET

DENCE ACTION

DATE GROUP PRECEDENCE INFO TIME

ROUTINE

13

FROM:

FARELF

TO:

MOD (ARMY) AHQ CANBERRA AHQ WELLINGTON TPS HONG KONG

HQ 17 DIV/MALAYA DIST

28 BDE

48 BDE

99 BDE ... 3 CEO BDE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

ORIGINATOR'S NUMBER

MALAYSIA/SINGAPORE SITREP AS AT130001 (Z)

ENEMY (.)

A (.) SINGAPORE (.)

B (.) WEST MALAYSIA/THAILAND BORDER

- 1. ON 27 JAN 68 THAI BPP ARRESTED 27 CT SUSPECTS AT TANAH MERAH AND MARWARD BANNANG SATA DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN THAILAND (.)
- ON 29 JAN 68 THAI BPP LOCATED TWO TEMPORARY CT CAMPS IN BETONG DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN THAILAND (AT QY 979270 AND QY 983264) (.) BOTH DESERTED ABOUT ONE MONTH PREVIOUSLY (.)
- 3. ON 5 FEB 68 THAI BPP LOCATED A FOOD DUMP AT QY 8388 YAHA DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN THAILAND (.) FOODSTUFFS AND LARGE QUANTITY DOCUS RECOVERED (.)
- 4. ON 8 FEB 68 JOINT SF ARRESTED ONE THAI MUSLIM SUSPECTED CT SUPPORTER AT QZ 163519 NEAR KG TO CMM BANNANG SATA DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN THAILAND (.)
- C(.) EAST MALAYSIA
  - 1. SARAWAK FIRST DIVISION (.) ON 7 FEB 68 TWO CHINESE PGRS SURRENDERED TO CIVILIAN AT SIBUTU GR 910042 (.) FORMERLY FROM KUCHING AND TEBEDU RESPECTIVELY CMM JOINED PGRS 1963 (.. ) PROBABLY FROM 3RD REGT PGRS IN SONGKONG COMPLEX (.) JUNGLE GREEN UNIFORMS AND MEDICINE RECOVERED (.)
- MAURITIUS (.) CASES OF INTIMIDATION CMM ARSON AND LOOTING OF D(.) UNOCCUPIED HOUSES CONTINUE (.) OFFENSIVE WEAPONS ARE STILL BEING RECOVERED AND INCLUDE MOLOTOV COCKTAILS CMM CLUBS CMM ONE GELIGNITE GRENADE AND QUANTITY OF SHOT GUN AMMUNITION (.) DOCKS ARE MOST LIKELY SCENE FOR FUTURE DISTURBANCES (.) GENERAL FEELING IS THAT HOOLIGAN ELEMENT WILL NOT INITIATE MAJOR TROUBLES WHILE TROOPS REMAIN (.)
- 2. OWN TROOPS (.)
  - HONG KONG (.) ALL AREAS HAVE BEEN QUIET (.) BORDER NOW MANNED BY ONE BATTALION ONLY (.) NO BOMBS DURING WEEK (.) ALL MINES IN BORDER AREA HAVE BEEN LIFTED (.)

PAGE NO 1 OF 2

SECRET

- B. SINGAPORE/MALAYSIA (.) NTR
- C. MAURITIUS (.) TROOPS HAVE PARTICIPATED IN CORDON AND SEARCHES AND CURFEW ENFORCEMENT THROUGHOUT THE LAST WEEK (.) A CYCLONE WARNING(CLASS 2) IS IN FORCE AND RESULTANT RAIN AND HIGH WINDS HAVE ASSISTED IN CURFEW ENFORCEMENT (.) CURFEW NOW 2300 HRS TO 0500 HRS (.) THERE HAS BEEN SOME FURTHER POPULATION MOVEMENT DUE TO MALICIOUS RUMOURS (.)

RANK	MAJOR
NAME	P.F.A. SIBBALD
RELEASING SIGNATURE	OFFICER'S (Railbage
TEL NO	21170
BRANCH	G (OPERATIONS)
DRAFTER'S	NAME P.F.A. SIBBALD

(.) ORIGINAL REGINERAL

PAGE SO 1 OF 2 .

### INTERNAL

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PAGE NO 2 OF 2

0925 Z

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

ORIGINATOR'S NUMBER

KLK

FARELF

MOD (ARMY) TO:

> AHQ CANBERRA AHQ WELLINGTON

TPS HONG KONG

HQ 17 DIV/MALAYA DIST

28 BDE

48 BDE

99 BDE

3 CDO BDE

MALAYSIA/SINGAPORE SITREP AS AT 190001Z (.)

ENEMY (.)

A. SINGAPORE (.) NTR (.)

B. WEST MALAYSIA/THAILAND BORDER (.)

- (1) 10 FEB 68 THAI BPP AND TEN CTS EXCHANGED FIRE AT KUALA KA'AE (QZ 185589) BANNANG SATA DISTRICT SOUTHER THAILAND (.) CTS BELIEVED WOUNDED (.) CAMP FOUND IN VICINITY (.)
- (2) 11 FEB 68 RECENTLY VACATED CT CAMP FOR THIRTY PERSONS LOCATED BY THAI BPP IN WENG DISTRICT (QZ 787384) SOUTHERN THAILAND (.)
- (3) 13 FEB 68 SOME CTS BELIEVED WOUNDED AFTER EXCHANGE OF FIRE WITH THAI BPP IN WENG DISTRICT (QZ 785365) (.) FOLLOW UP OPERATION INITIATED (.)
- (4) 15 FEB 68 (.) FIVE ARMED CTS ACCOMPANIED BY FIVE ABORIGINIES SEEN AT SG CHUPAN (QZ 648095) NORTH WEST OF KALANTAN (.) THIS IS FIRST SIGHTING REPORT IN WEST MALAYSIA FOR 68 (.)
- C. MAURITIUS AND RODRIGUES (.)
  - (1) TENSION BETWEEN CREOLES AND MUSLIMS IN PORT LOUIS IS MOUNTING (.) ROAD BLOCKS, WHICH HAD BEEN ERECTED BY THESE COMMUNITIES, WERE REMOVED BY 1 KSLI TROOPS (.)
  - (2) A GELIGNITE BOMB WAS FOUND DURING POLMIL PATROL EARLY IN THE WEEK AND ONE WAS USED IN THE WESTERN AREA OF PORT LOUIS ON FRIDAY (.)
  - (3) RODRIGUES NTR (.)
- OWN TROOPS (.) 2.
  - A. MAURITIUS (.) B COY 1 KSLI HAVE TAKEN OVER RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PORT LOUIS AREA FROM THE LOCAL SPECIAL MOBILE FORCE, WHO ARE PREPARING FOR INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS (.)
  - B. UNIT MOVES (.)
    - (1) 2/10 GR, WHO WERE RELIEVED IN HONG KONG BY 2/6 GR, ARE NOW ESTABLISHED AT PENANG LESS SEA PARTY (.)
    - (2) 42 LT AD BTY, RA IS CURRENTLY RETURNING TO UK WITHOUT RELIEF (.)
    - (3) 132 MED BTY, RA IS CURRENTLY RETURNING TO UK WITHOUT RELIEF (.)
    - (4) 51 FD SQN (AIRFIELDS) RE ADVANCE PARTY HAS LEFT FOR UK (.)

G INT (MA DJAKARTA)) NOT TO BE SIGNALLED

(MA MANILA)

WAR ROOM LIST C (LESS SERIALS 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, 19,

20, 21, 24, 25, 27-34, 38, 40, 44-48, NAME: 50 and 51)

DEAFTERS NAME: H.M. du V.LOHAN

BRANCH:

G (OPS)

TEL NO:

2345

RELEASING OFFICERS'

CAPTAIN

SECRETRANK:

PRECEDENCE ACTION PRECEDENCE INFO DATE TIME GROUP MONTH YEAR ROUTINE 68 FEB

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

FROM:

TO:

MOD (ARMY) AHQ CANBERRA

AHQ WELLINGTON TPS HONG KONG

HQ 17 DIV/MALAYA DIST

28 BDE

48 BDE

99 BDE

3 Cdo BDE

SECRET

ORIGINATOR'S NUMBER

SITREP AS AT 260001Z

### ENEMY (.)

WEST MALAYSIA/THAILAND BORDER (.)

- (1) ON 17 FEB 68 JOINT SF ARRESTED THAI ARMY DESERTER AT QZ 00527Z BETONG DISTRICT (.) INTERROGATION REVEALED INFORMATION ON CT MOVEMENTS IN AREA QZ 04:8 (.)
- (2) ON 18 FEB 68 THAI BPP ATTACKED CT CAMP AT QY 931118 BETONG DISTRICT AFTER EXCHANGE OF FIRE LASTING ABOUT FIFTEEN MINUTES (.) BETWEEN FIFTEEN AND TWENTY-FIVE CTS VACATED CAMP AND ESCAPED (.) CTS BELIEVED TO HAVE USED AT LEAST TWO LMGS (.) UNIFORMS AND FOC RECOVERED (.) OPERATION STILL IN PROGRESS (.)
- EAST MALAYSIA (.)
  - (1) SARAWAK THIRD DIVISION (.) ON 19 FEB 68 MALAYSIAN PFF LOCATED SCO CAMPS AT SG TELIAN GR 127135 APPROX EIGHT MILES WSW OF KANOWIT (.) TWO PERSONS SEEN RUNNING INTO JUNGLE (.) CAMP CONSISTED OF TWO BASHAS (.) TWO TRANSISTOR RADIOS, CLOTHING AND COOKING UTENSILS RECOVERED (.) COMMENT: THIS IS THE SECOND CAMP DISCOVERED IN THIS DIVISION THIS YEAR (.)
- MAURITIUS (.)
  - (1) THE SITUATION DETERIORATED IN PORT LOUIS 23/24 FEB 68 (.) THREE CASES OF HOUSE ARSON AND ONE CAR STOPPED AND SET ON FIRE (.) ONE LOCAL NATIONAL VERY BADLY BEATEN UP (.)
  - (2) ON 23 FEB 68 TROOPS CARRIED OUT SUCCESSFUL OPERATION IN SOUTH OF ISLAND SEARCHING FOR CANNABIS (.) SIX TONS DESTROYED (.)
- OTHER AREAS (.) NTR (.)
- TROOPS (.) OWN
  - MAURITIUS (.) 1 KSLI TROOPS REVERTED TO IS DUTIES WITH EMPHASIS ON NIGHT OPERATIONS (.)
  - LAOS (.) COL MOORE CMM MA VIENTIANE DIED IN AIR CRASH 24 FEB 60 / В.

PAGE NO 1 OF 2

### SECRET

PLANE CRASHED INTO MEKONG ABOUT THIRTY-SEVEN MILES SOUTH WEST OF LUANG PRABANG (.) BELIEVED THAT THE PLANE RAN INTO A RAIN SQUALL CMM STALLED AND PLUNGED INTO THE RIVER (.)

- O. OPERATIONAL NOMINATIONS (.)
  - (1) SPEARHEAD (.)

TOTAL THE VOLTE YELLTONE

- (A) 2/7 GR 26 29 FEB 68 (.)
- (B) 2/10 GR 1 31 MAR 68 (.)
- (2) RING FENCE I (.)
  - (A) 2/2 GR 26 29 FEB 68 (.)
  - (B) 40 CDO RM 1 MAR 68 15 APR 68 (.)

THE REAL PROPERTY OF THE PROPE

- (3) MELBY 42 CDO RM (.)
- D. UNIT MOVES (.) 2/10 GR ARE NOW COMPLETE IN PENANG (.)
- E. VISITORS TO FARELF (.)
  - (1) MAJ GEN ANDERSON CMM SIGNAL OFFICER IN CHIEF CMM IS VISITING UNITO IN FARELF RETURNING TO UK 7 MAR 68 (.)
  - (2) BRIG READ CMM DIRECTOR OF MILITARY OPERATIONS (DESIGNATE)
    IS VISITING SINGAPORE AND MALAYSIA (.) HE LEAVES FOR BAHREIN 3 MAR 6.
    VIA BANGKOK (.)

DRAFTER'S	NAME H.M. du V. LOHAN	
BRANCH: _	G (OPS)	N.
TEL NO: _	2345	
RELEASING SIGNATURE	OFFICER'S HMawler	
NAME:	H.M. du V. LOHAN	
RANK	CAPTATN	

### INTERNAL:

G INT (MA DJAKARTA) ) NOT TO BE SIGNALLED

WAR ROOM

LIST C(LESS SERIALS 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, 10, 20, 21, 24, 25, 27 - 34, 38, 49, 44 - 48, 50 and 51)

Page No 2 of 2

THIS MESSAGE REFERS/DOES NOT REFER TO A CLASSIFIED MESSAGE