

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries

Headquarters units

Item number: 1/1/82

**Item: Headquarters Australian Army
Force, Far East Land Forces**

Narrative

Annexes

[1-31 Mar 1969]

PART III

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, organisation 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 will be made daily on AF C2118, 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 in the Field", Chapter 2, Section 7.

RESPONSIBILITY

During Non-operational Periods

- 4. A Commanders Diary will be made by commanders of all formations.

During Operational Periods (see note 1)

- 5. A Commanders Diary will be made 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 will consist of:—
 - (a) Cover (AF C2119).
 - (b) Index as printed on cover.
 - (c) Narrative (AF C2118).
 - (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 will 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 will be included.
- 8. The annexes will 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, the relevant papers should be grouped as annexes starting at B.
- 9. Documents concerned with future planning for operations will form Annex "Z", "TOP SECRET Supplemental Diary" of the formation originating the document. It will be prepared and disposed of as
- 19. The duplicate supplementary diaries will be made when the original originals has been acknowledged.

CONTENTS

giving place names as well as map references), establishment, orders given, diary of the day's fighting, including company movements, of the commander with regard to equipment, tactics, organisation of potential importance. casualties to officers, men and equipment. equipment captured. it was employed in the time not accounted for. The type of eness and to save work as much information as possible will uments issued and received, routine returns, etc. All annexes time of receipt or despatch will be given.

(continued on back cover)

NOTES

- 1. Definition of Operational Period.—The term "operational" shall mean:
 - (a) the period between a declaration of war and the end of hostilities;
 - (b) any period spent in a theatre of operations;
 - (c) any period when engaged in any form of operations.
- 2. The Ministry of Defence or headquarters concerned shall state where the conditions of the unit's employment shall be clearly stated. Notwithstanding the above, the time submitting these reports will start from the date of commencement of operations in accordance with paragraphs 15 and 16.

1/11 Mar 69

12. The narrative will supplement and connect the annexes but need not give a precis of them.

DISPOSAL

During Non-Operational Periods

13. *Formation Headquarters* will forward the original Commanders Diary annually as at 31st December to reach the Army Records Centre (through Headquarters Field Records where applicable) as soon as possible after 1st January of the following year. The duplicate will be retained in formation headquarters.

14. *Units* will NOT render a Commanders Diary.

During Operational Periods

15. ORIGINAL COMMANDERS DIARIES

- (a) *Formations and units in the UK* will forward diaries monthly by the seventh day of the succeeding month direct to the Ministry of Defence (ARC for reports other than medical, AMD 1 for medical reports).
- (b) *Formations and units overseas* will forward diaries monthly by the seventh day of the succeeding month to the OIC Field Records for onward transmission to the Ministry of Defence.

16. **DUPLICATE COMMANDERS DIARIES.** These will be clearly marked as duplicates and will NOT be sent with the originals. They will be forwarded within two months as follows:—

- (a) *Units in the UK*
To the OIC parent record office.
- (b) *Formation Headquarters in the UK*
To OIC Central Clearing Wing, Infantry Records, Exeter.
- (c) *Units Overseas*
To the OIC Field Records for onward transmission to parent record office.
- (d) *Formation Headquarters Overseas*
To the OIC Field Records for onward transmission to the OIC Central Clearing Wing, Infantry Records, Exeter.

SECURITY

17. Documents concerned with future operational planning will be listed on AF C2118 and placed in a separate AF C2119. All details will be filled in and the cover will be clearly marked in red:—ANNEX Z—OFFICERS ONLY. It may be convenient to group the papers by annexes.

18. Supplementary diaries will be forwarded in accordance with the normal rules for TOP SECRET correspondence to the Ministry of Defence (ARC). The inner envelope will be clearly marked:—

TOP SECRET
ANNEX Z to

Commanders Diary of..... HQ AUST ARMY FORCE FARELF.....(formation or unit)

From..... 1 Mar 69..... to..... 31 Mar 69.....(Dates)

19. The duplicate supplementary diaries will be despatched as in paragraph 16 as soon as receipt of the originals has been acknowledged.

NOTES

1. *Definition of Operational Period.*—The term “operational period” for the purpose of this instruction, means:—
- (a) the period between a declaration of war and the official end of hostilities;
- (b) any period spent in a theatre of operations;
- (c) any period when engaged in any form of military operation.
2. The Ministry of Defence or headquarters concerned will be responsible for instructing units to submit Commanders' Diaries where the conditions of the unit's employment make this necessary. Wherever possible the beginning and end of the period will be clearly stated. Notwithstanding the above, on the outbreak of global war all units and formations which are not at the time submitting these reports will start compiling them with effect from M day and will thereafter render them in accordance with paragraphs 15 and 16.

1/1 Mar 69

CONFIDENTIAL

E1
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PRECEDENCE - ACTION

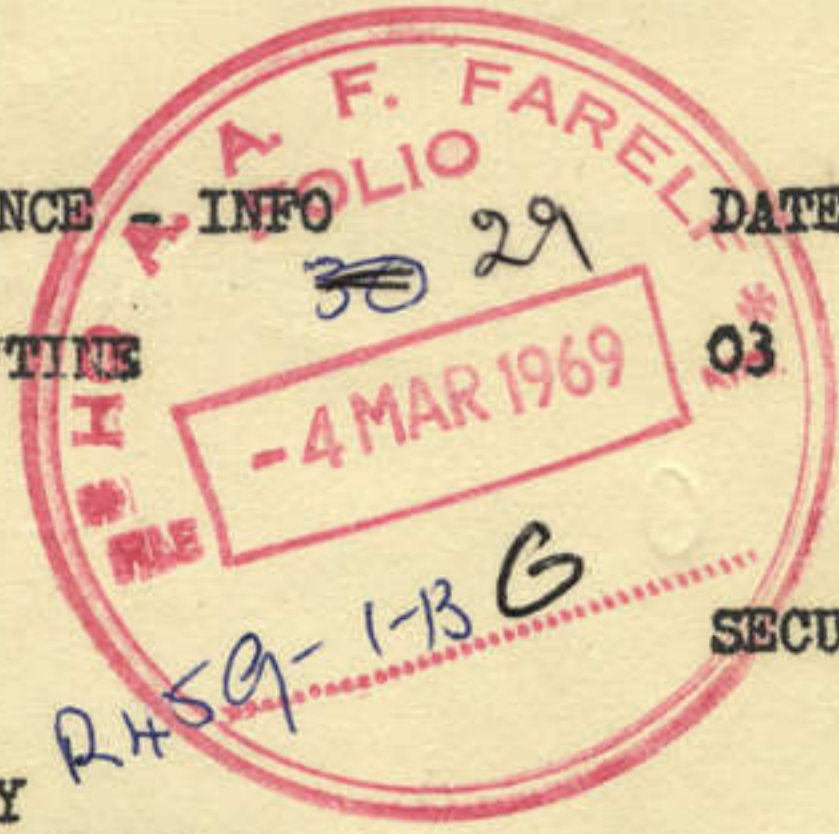
ROUTINE

PRECEDENCE - INFO

ROUTINE

DATE - TIME - GROUP

03 0915 Z MAR



FROM:

FARELF

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:

MOD ARMY
AHQ WELLINGTON
AHQ CANBERRA
TPS HONG KONG
17 DIV
28 BDE
48 BDE
51 BDE
99 BDE
3 CDO BDE

CONFIDENTIAL

ORIGINATOR'S NUMBER

KLK

SITREP NO 9/69 AS AT 030001 Z MAR.

1. OP NOMINATIONS. PERIOD 3-9 MAR.

A. SPEARHEAD. 40 CDO, RM.

B. RINGFENCE I. 2/6 GR.

2. SINGAPORE. NTR.

3. MALAYSIA. NTR.

4. HONG KONG. PERIOD 21-28 FEB.

A. BORDER

(1) DEPLOYMENT. 1/6 GR FRONTIER BN, 2/7 GR FRONTIER RESERVE.

(2) INCIDENTS. ON SIX OCCASIONS DURING THE WEEK PATROLS AND MILITARY VEHICLES IN THE SHA TAU KOK AREA WERE STONED. ON ONE OCCASION, 26 FEB, TWO UNARMED CCA THREW STONES BUT IN THE MAIN THE OFFENDERS HAVE BEEN YOUNG BOYS. SMALL BOYS MADE TWO UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS TO BLOCK THE BORDER ROAD WITH PIECES OF WOOD, JUGS AND TINS AT GR KV 144962. THE INCREASE IN MINOR ACTS OF PROVOCATION FROM THE CHINESE SIDE OF THE BORDER COINCIDES WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW DEFENCE POSITIONS ON THE HONG KONG SIDE OF THE BORDER.

DISTR:
INTERNAL:

G INT (DA DJAKARTA)
(DA MANILA)

HQ FAR EAST COMMAND (FOR DIS (FE) AND WAR ROOM)

LIST C ONE COPY EACH (LESS SERIALS 3,5,17,18,19,22-32,36,38,42,44,45,46,48,490

} NOT
TO BE
SIGNALLED

PAGE 1 OF 1 REFERS CLASSIFIED
MESSAGE - YES/NO

DRAFTER'S NAME
H.M. DU V. LOHAN

OFFICE
G OPS

TEL:
2345

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

H.M. Du V. Lohan

CONFIDENTIAL

RANK: MAJOR

/ER

MESSAGE FORM

H1

NUMBER.....

[Handwritten signature]

FOR COMM CEN/SIGNALS USE.....

REF R723-1-1

PRECEDENCE—ACTION ROUTINE	PRECEDENCE—INFO DEFERRED	DATE—TIME—GROUP 07 0737 ZMAR 69	MESSAGE INSTRUCTIONS
FROM AUSTARM SINGAPORE			PREFIX GR (2)
TO ARMY CANBERRA			SECURITY CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED
			ORIGINATOR'S NUMBER TRG 1251

INFO

UNIT WEEKLY REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING 8 MAR 69 . 107 FD BTY RAA CMM 110 LAA

BTY RAA CMM 8 RAR CMM EX CROWNING GLORY 3-14 MAR . 2 FD TP RAE .

PROJECT AT BUKIT MENDI CEASED 26 FEB

FOR OPRS USE	R	DATE	TIME	SYSTEM	OPERATOR	D	DATE	TIME	SYSTEM	OPERATOR	SIGNATURE
											RANK
											CAPT

SECRET

E2

PRECEDENCE ACTION	PRECEDENCE INFO	DATE	TIME	GROUP
ROUTINE	ROUTINE	12	0930 0140	Z MAR
FROM: FARELF				SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
TO: MOD ARMY				SECRET
AHQ CANBERRA				(COPY NO 30 OF 30 32)
AHQ WELLINGTON				ORIGINATOR'S NUMBER
TPS HONG KONG				KLK
17 DIV				
28 BDE				
48 BDE				
51 BDE				
99 BDE				
3 CDO BDE				

(3)

SITREP NO 10/69 AS AT 100001Z MAR.

1. OP NOMINATIONS. PERIOD 10 - 16 MAR.
 - A. SPEARHEAD. 40 CDO, RM.
 - B. RING FENCE I. 2/6 GR.
2. SINGAPORE.
 - A. DEMONSTRATIONS AT NANYANG UNIVERSITY. STUDENTS INVOLVED IN DEMONSTRATIONS LAST DECEMBER HAVE BEEN EXPELLED. UNIVERSITY AUTHORITIES ARE TAKING A FIRM LINE AGAINST ANY ATTEMPTS TO MOUNT DEMONSTRATIONS OF SYMPATHY IN THE FUTURE.
 - B. DEMONSTRATION IN SUPPORT OF QUARRY WORKERS. ON 3 MAR DEMONSTRATIONS IN SUPPORT OF WORKERS INVOLVED IN LABOUR DISPUTES AT GRANITE QUARRIES (SITREP NO 2/69 REFERS) WERE DISPERSED BY POLICE ACTION; 35 ARRESTS MADE.
3. MALAYSIA.
 - A. JOHORE BAHRU. ON 27 FEB FEDERAL POLICE RESERVE UNIT DISPERSED RIOT CONNECTED WITH LOCAL STRIKE ACTION. THREE POLICE AND THREE WORKERS INJURED. SIX ARRESTS MADE.
 - B. THAI/MALAY BORDER. FOLLOWING INCIDENTS TOOK PLACE ON MALAY SIDE OF BORDER DUE SOUTH OF WENG VALLEY.
 - (1) ON 4 MAR AT GR QZ 650069 FOUR ARMED CTs STAYED AT LOCALS HOUSE FOR A FEW HOURS. THEY MADE ENQUIRIES ABOUT SF STRENGTHS IN BATU MELINGTANG GR QZ 6807.
 - (2) ON 5 MAR AT GR QZ 633023 TWO ARMED CTs SIGHTED BY LOCAL.
 - (3) ON 6 MAR AT GR QZ 652037 TWO ARMED CTs ENQUIRED ABOUT DIRECTION TO KAMPONG LAWAR GR QZ 6303.
4. HONG KONG. PERIOD 1 - 7 MAR.
 - A. BORDER.
 - (1) DEPLOYMENT. 1 DWR FRONTIER BN. 1/7 GR FRONTIER RESERVE.

SECRET

SECRET

(2) INCIDENTS. MINOR INCIDENTS OF CHILDREN STONING BORDER PATROL VEHICLES HAVE OCCURRED.

5. UNIT MOVES. NTR.

DISTRIBUTION:

INTERNAL:

G INT (DA DJAKARTA)) NOT
(DA MANILA)) TO BE
HQ FAR EAST COMMAND (FOR DIS(FE) AND WAR ROOM)) SIGNALLED
LIST C ONE COPY EACH (LESS SERIALS 3,5,17,18,19,22-32,35,38,42,44,45,46,48,49)

REFERS TO CLASSIFIED
MESSAGE - YES/NO

DRAFTER'S NAME
H.Mdu V. LOHAN

OFFICE
G OPS

TEL:
2345

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

H.Mdu V. Lohan

RANK: MAJOR

Page No 2 of 2

SECRET

MESSAGE FORM

42.

NUMBER.....

FOR COMM CEN/SIGNALS USE.....

R723-1-1

PRECEDENCE—ACTION ROUTINE	PRECEDENCE—INFO DEFERRED	DATE—TIME—GROUP 140425ZMAR69	MESSAGE INSTRUCTIONS
FROM AUSTARM SINGAPORE			PREFIX GR
TO ARMY CANBERRA			SECURITY CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED
			ORIGINATOR'S NUMBER TRG 1413

(4)

INFO

UNIT WEEKLY REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING 15 MAR 69 . 107 FD BTY RAA CMM
 110 LAA BTY RAA CMM 8 RAR CMM EX CROWNING GLORY . 2 FD TP RAE .
 EX CROWNING GLORY CMM FOOT BRIDGE COMPLETED AT TAMPIN 9 MAR

FOR OPRS USE	R	DATE	TIME	SYSTEM	OPERATOR	D	DATE	TIME	SYSTEM	OPERATOR	SIGNATURE

CAPT

CONFIDENTIAL

E3



CONFIDENTIAL

PRECEDENCE ACTION	PRECEDENCE INFO	DATE	TIME	GROUP
ROUTINE	ROUTINE	180300		Z MAR

(5)

FROM:	FARELF	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
TO:	MOD ARMY	CONFIDENTIAL

AHQ CANBERRA
 AHQ WELLINGTON
 TPS HONG KONG
 17 DIV
 28 BDE
 48 BDE
 51 BDE
 99 BDE
 3 CDO BDE

ORIGINATOR'S NUMBER
 KLK

SITREP NO 11/69 AS AT 170001Z MAR.

1. OP NOMINATIONS. PERIOD 17 - 23 MAR.
 - A. SPEARHEAD. 40 CDO, RM.
 - B. RING FENCE I. 2/6 GR.
2. SINGAPORE. NTR
3. MALAYSIA. NTR
4. HONG KONG. PERIOD 7 - 14 MAR.
 - A. BORDER. DEPLOYMENT. 1 DWR FRONTIER BN. 1/7 GR FRONTIER RESERVE.
 - B. GENERAL. MISSING YACHTS (SITREP NO 8/69 REFERS). RN COAST WATCHING STATION AT TAI O, LAN TAU ISLAND, SIGHTED SAILS AND MASTS OF THREE YACHTS SEVENTEEN MILES TO NORTH WEST. IN SPITE OF CONSIDERABLE PRESS SPECULATION OF IMMINENT RETURN OF YACHTS THERE HAVE BEEN NO FURTHER SIGHTINGS.
5. UNIT MOVES. 3LI BECAME NON OPERATIONAL WITH EFFECT 15 MARCH PRIOR TO MOVE TO UK IN APRIL.

DISTRIBUTION:
INTERNAL:

G INT (DA DJAKARTA)	}	NOT TO BE
(DA MANILA)		
HQ FAR EAST COMMAND (FOR DIS(FE) AND WAR ROOM)	}	SIGNALLED
LIST C ONE COPY EACH (LESS SERIALS 3,5,17,18,19,22-32,36,38,42,44,45,46,48,49)		

REFERS TO CLASSIFIED MESSAGE YES/NO	DRAFTER'S NAME H.M. du V. LOHAN	OFFICE G OPS	TEL 2345
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H.M. du V. LOHAN

F. Sig (Charge)
(page)

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R723-1-1

PRECEDENCE—ACTION ROUTINE	PRECEDENCE—INFO DATE—TIME GROUP DEFERRED 21 0706 ZMAR69	MESSAGE INSTRUCTIONS
FROM AUSTARM SINGAPORE		PREFIX GR
TO ARMY CANBERRA		SECURITY CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED (6)
INFO		ORIGINATOR'S NUMBER TRG 538

UNIT WEEKLY REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING 22 MAR 69

107 FD BTY RAA . REGT DUTIES .

110 LAA BTY RAA . UNIT PREPARING FOR STOCKTAKE .

2 FD TP RAE . TP ON BLOCK LEAVE .

8 RAR . FAREWELL PARADE TO LT COL LANGTRY CMM PREPARATION FOR

HANDOVER TO 1 RAR .

Page.....of.....pages	REFERS TO MESSAGE CLASSIFIED <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	DRAFTER'S NAME MILLMAN	OFFICE GS	TEL. No. 21609
FOR OPR'S USE R	DATE TIME SYSTEM OPERATOR D	DATE TIME SYSTEM OPERATOR	RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE RANK	

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E4



CONFIDENTIAL

PRECEDENCE ACTION
ROUTINE

PRECEDENCE INFO
ROUTINE

DATE TIME GROUP
25 0840 Z MAR

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

FROM: FARELF
TO: MOD ARMY
AHQ CANBERRA
AHQ WELLINGTON
TPS HONG KONG
17 DIV
28 BDE
48 BDE
51 BDE
99 BDE
3 CDO BDE

CONFIDENTIAL
ORIGINATOR'S NUMBER

7

KLK

SITREP NO 12/69 AS AT 240001Z MAR.

- 1. OP NOMINATIONS. PERIOD 17 - 23 MAR.
 - A. SPEARHEAD. 40 CDO, RM.
 - B. RING FENCE I. 2/6 GR.
- 2. SINGAPORE. NTR.
- 3. MALAYSIA. NTR.
- 4. HONG KONG. PERIOD 14 - 21 MAR. BORDER DEPLOYMENT. 1/7 GR
FRONTIER BN. 2/7 GR FRONTIER RESERVE.
- 5. UNIT MOVES. NTR.

DISTRIBUTION:

INTERNAL:

G INT (DA DJAKARTA)) NOT
 (DA MANILA)) TO BE
 HQ FAR EAST COMMAND (FOR DIS(FE) AND WAR ROOM)) SIGNALLED

LIST C ONE COPY EACH (LESS SERIALS 3,5,17,18,19,22-32,36,38,42,44,45,46,48,49)

REFERS TO CLASSIFIED MESSAGE	YES/NO	DRAFTER'S NAME	OFFICE	TEL:
		H.M.du V. LOHAN	G OPS	2345

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H.M. du V. Lohan

RANK: MAJOR

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NUMBER

H4

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R723-1-1

PRECEDENCE—ACTION ROUTINE	PRECEDENCE—INFO DATE—TIME GROUP DEFERRED 28 0710 ZMAR69	MESSAGE INSTRUCTIONS
FROM AUSTARM SINGAPORE		PREFIX GR
TO ARMY CANBERRA		SECURITY CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED
INFO		ORIGINATOR'S NUMBER TRG 1717

8

UNIT WEEKLY REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING 29 MAR 69 . 107 FD BTY RAA . SMALL
 ARMS PRACTICE CMM BTY EX AT ASAHAN 26/27 MAR CMM REGT DUTIES .
 110 LAA BTY RAA . UNIT STAND DOWN AFTER EX CROWNING GLORY . 2 FD TP RAE .
 TP TRG 23/28 MAR . 8 RAR . HANDOVER TO 1 RAR

Page.....of.....pages	REFERS TO MESSAGE CLASSIFIED <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	DRAFTER'S NAME MILIMAN	OFFICE GS	TEL. No. 21609
FOR OPR'S USE R	DATE D	TIME	SYSTEM	OPERATOR
	DATE	TIME	SYSTEM	OPERATOR
	RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE			RANK CAPT

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

E5

PRECEDENCE ACTION	PRECEDENCE INFO	DATE	TIME	GROUP
ROUTINE	ROUTINE	01	0230	Z APR

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

FROM: FARELF

TO: MOD ARMY
 AHQ CANBERRA
 AHQ WELLINGTON
 TPS HONG KONG
 17 DIV
 28 BDE
 48 BDE
 51 BDE
 99 BDE
 3 CDO BDE



SITREP NO 13/69 AS AT 310001Z MAR.

1. OP NOMINATIONS.
 - A. SPEARHEAD. 31 MAR, 40 CDO RM. 1 - 30 APR, 10 GR.
 - B. RING FENCE I. 31 MAR, 2/6 GR. 1 - 30 APR, 1/2 GR.
2. SINGAPORE. NTR.
3. WEST MALAYSIA. THAI/MALAY BORDER.
 - A. ON 24 MAR AT GRID Q2 728489 PFF AND BPP CONTACTED ABOUT ONE DOZEN CTs. FIRE EXCHANGED WITH NO CAS ON EITHER SIDE. SOME EQPT AND AMMO RECOVERED. FOLLOW UP ACTION TAKEN.
 - B. INITIAL UNCONFIRMED REPORTS STATE THAT ON 29 MAR IN WENG DISTRICT TWO PLS SF ATTACKED EN CAMP DEFENDED BY 20 - 30 CTs. 1 BPP AND TWO PFF WOUNDED, ONE CT TAKEN PRISONER. UNCONFIRMED REPORTS STATE THAT IT IS THOUGHT THAT THE CT DEFENDERS MAY HAVE BEEN LEFT TO COVER WITHDRAWAL OF MAIN CT FORCE LOCATED IN THE CAMP.
4. EAST MALAYSIA. NTR.
5. HONG KONG. PERIOD 21 - 28 MAR.
 - A. FRONTIER DEPLOYMENT. 1/7 GR FRONTIER BY. 2/7 GR FRONTIER RESERVE.
 - B. INCIDENTS. ON 22 MAR AN ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT WAS FIRED ON AND WOUNDED BY BORDER GUARDS IN COMMUNIST TERRITORY. HE GAVE HIMSELF UP TO POLICE IN BRITISH TERRITORY AND IS NOW IN HOSPITAL.

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6. UNIT MOVES. NIL.

DISTRIBUTION:

INTERNAL:

G INT (3) 1 EACH FOR DA DJAKARTA AND DA MANILA	}	NOT
HQ FAR EAST COMMAND (2) FOR DIS(FE) AND WAR ROOM		TO BE
LIST C ONE COPY EACH (LESS SERIALS 3, 5, 7, 17, 18, 19, 22-32, 36, 38, 42, 44, 45, 46, 48, 49)		SIGNALLED

REFERS TO CLASSIFIED
MESSAGE YES/NO

DRAFTER'S NAME
H.M. du V. LOHAN

OFFICE
G OPS

TEL:
2345

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

H.M. du V. Lohan

RANK MAJOR

PAGE NO 2 OF 2

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