

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Artillery units

Item number: 3/5/32

Item: 105 Field Battery [105 Fd Bty]

Narrative, Annexes, Map

[29 Dec 1965 - 31 Jan 1966]

ORIGINAL

~~DUPLICATE~~

~~TRIPPLICATE~~

ARMY FORM C 2119

SECRET

COMMANDER'S DIARY

OF

.....105 FIELD BATTERY RAA.....

Name of Commanding Officer Major P.N. TEDDER...

From...29 Dec 65 to 31 Jan 66.

Signature of OC unit or senior staff officer

P.N. Tedder Maj

INDEX

Narrative (AF C2118)
Annexes

Enclosure Numbers

- a. Duty Officer's Logto.....
- b. Messages connected with logto.....
- c. Operation orders and instructions issued ...2,6...to.....
- d. Operation orders and instructions received ...1,7...to.....
- e. Sitreps issuedto.....
- f. Orders of battle and location reports issuedto.....
- g. Intelligence reports and summaries issued
appreciations madeto.....
- h. Administrative orders and instructions issued ...5...to.....
- j. Administrative orders and instructions recievedto.....
- k. Administrative reports and bulletins; ammunition
returns; field strength returnsto.....
- l. Standing orders issuedto.....
- m. Commander's policy and demi-Official lettersto.....
- o. Other papers eg, maps and diagrams, air photos,
reports from sub-units. ...4...to.....
- p. Periodical summaries of operations ...3...to.....
- z. Top Secret supplementary Report

NIL
RETAINED
DESPATCHED to

.....
on.....
(date)

OIC Mil History Sec
 AHQ
 MELBOURNE

UNIT HISTORY

Copy: /

Month and Year December 65

Commanding Officer... Maj. P. N. O. TEDDER.....

Place	Date	Summary of Events and Information	Enclosures Ref to Appendices
BIEN HOA	29 Dec 65	Received op order from 1 RAR at 1900 hrs (Op MARAUDER - see enclosure)	1. 1 RAR Op O "MARAUDER"
BIEN HOA	30 Dec 65	2100 hrs 105 Fd Bty RAA op order issued (Op O 4/65 refers) Officers attended "New Year's Eve party at 3/319 US Artillery Officers Club	2. 105 Bty Op O 4/65 "MARAUDER"
BIEN HOA	31 Dec 65	Preparations complete for movement to Op MARAUDER. OR's and SGT's Mess permitted to stay open till 0100 hrs.	

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UNIT HISTORY

Copy: 1

Month and Year Jan 66

Commanding Officer... Maj. P. N. O. TEDDER.....

Place	Date	Summary of Events and Information	Enclosures Ref to Appendices
BAU TRAI	1 Jan 66	0700 hrs Bty left BIEN HOA by road for BAU TRAI , Op MARAUDER	
		(Sequence of events - see op analysis Op MARAUDER, Enclosure 3)	3. Op Analysis
			Op MARAUDER &
			Op CRIMP
	8 Jan 66	Bty moved to new operations area for operation CRIMP. 105 Bty did not return	
		to BIEN HOA after Op MARAUDER	
		(Sequence of events - see op analysis Op CRIMP, Enclosure 3)	"
		(Debriefing Conference Ops MARAUDER & CRIMP Enclosure 4)	
		(Op Analysis Ops MARAUDER & CRIMP Enclosure 3)	

OIC Mil History Sec
 AHQ
 MELBOURNE

UNIT HISTORY

Copy: /

Month and Year Jan 66

Commanding Officer...Maj.P.N.O..TEDDER.....

Place	Date	Summary of Events and Information	Ref to Appendices
BIEN HOA	19 Jan 66	0104 hrs H & I cancelled.	
		1100 & 1500 Bobby Limb show in 1 RAR Area	
		1200 hrs C/s 11 in from TAOR c/s 12 out at 1400 hrs	
		1400 hrs Calibration check carried out for charges 6 & 7	
		No H & I this might be due to cease fire for TET (Vietnamese New Year)	
		Recieved OPLAN VILLAGE LIBERATOR from HQ 173 Abn Bde (Sp)	OPLAN VILLAGE 7. LIBERATOR
	20 Jan 66	2100 hrs onwards. Tracer rounds fired into air from hamlets around camp	
		Believed to be for TET.	
		No H & I fired this night "STOP" still in force	
	21 Jan 66	OP party returned from TAOR with c/s 12.	
		H & I four rounds single gun fired this night	
	22 Jan 66	Administration Day	
	23 Jan 66	Administration & Trg day.	
	24 Jan 66	OP3 warned for movement to TAOR with 11 Pl D Coy 1 RAR	5. Adm Trg Inst 1/66
		BTY ADM/TRG Instruction 1/66 issued commencing trg and admin projects from	
		24 Jan to 12 Feb 66. (Enclosure 5)	

OIC Mil History Sec
AHQ
MELBOURNE

UNIT HISTORY

Copy: 1

Month and Year Jan 66

Commanding Officer.....Maj P N O TEDDER.....

Place	Date	Summary of Events and Information	Ref to Appendices
BIEN HOA	25 Jan 66	Bty Target GR 102204 24 rds fired no results available No H & I this night.	
	26 Jan 66	OP 3 out to TOAR with 11 Pl D Coy 1 RAR 0815 hrs. 1930 hrs 16 rounds illumination fired for Australia Day. OP 3 reported finding of trench system and two graves in 2/503 TAOR	
	27 Jan 66	1120 Single gun target OP 3 reported voices heard east of trench system found yesterday FH c/s 41 to investigate OP 3 called for air surveillance by another OP OP 2 airborne. VC Camp found and destroyed by FH 41 and OP 3 two small arms rounds fired into camp. No further contact with VC.	
	28 Jan 66	OP 3 returned to BIEN HOA with FH c/s 41.	
	29 Jan 66	1 RAR & FO parties 105 Fd Bty placed on 2 hrs stand by for move with 173 Ab Bge (Sp) to MICHELEN PLANTATION area. CO's preliminary orders for op "PEABODY" 10 Single gun H & I tasks from 2020.	

OIC Mil History Sec
 AHQ
 MELBOURNE

UNIT HISTORY

Copy: 1

Month and Year Jan 66

Commanding Officer. Maj. P. N. O. TEDDER

Place	Date	Summary of Events and Information	Ref to Appendices
BIEN HOA	30 Jan 66	Wag O issued for op "PEABODY"	
		2 hour stand by continues	
		H & I fired 2020 hrs GR 030227	
		2030 hrs GR 032224	
		2040 hrs GR 023223	
	31 Jan 66	CO's orders for op "PEABODY" at 1 RAR 0830 hrs	
		0900 hrs op "PEABODY" cancelled due to unavailability of area of operation	
		2 hr stand by continues (BC's notes for op O op PEABODY not given as orders, refer enclosure 6)	
		H & I fired GR 092 165 ten rounds WP	6. Notes for orders to be given for op PEABODY if Bty was called out.
		GR 096 165 six rounds HE	
		GR 096 165 six rounds WP	

ENCLOSURE 1

BURIALS

105 Fd Bty RAA
BIEN HOA RVN

2 Feb 66

Gun Tp
OP Tp
Admin Tp

BURIALS


The following is text of message received from AUSTARM VIETNAM to 105 Fd Bty RAA.

The bodies of all servicemen who are killed or die overseas may now be returned to AUSTRALIA at public expense for burial where this is practicable and if the NOK requires that this be done. The acting minister of Defence, Mr Alan S HULME announced this decision of the government today. The government had decided that a Service Funeral would be conducted in AUSTRALIA at the cemetery selected by the NOK. If relatives preferred Private Funeral the same assistance would be given by Service Authorities as was given in the cases of servicemen dying in AUSTRALIA who were buried privately. The acting minister stated that the new policy would operate immediately. Reimbursement for transport costs would be made to relatives of those soldiers already killed in VIETNAM who had paid to have the bodies returned to AUSTRALIA.

It might not be practicable to return bodies in some cases owing to the location of the cas. Where pers had already been buried overseas, permission would not be given for them to be returned to AUSTRALIA for interment.

Where relatives decided not to have the remains returned to AUSTRALIA the servicemen would be buried with full military honours in the overseas war cemetery.

Mr HULME added that the policy of returning deceased servicemen to AUSTRALIA for burial applied to the existing circumstances only. It would be necessary to return to the wartime procedure of burying all cas in the area of death if the Op demands on the available transport were to become too great.

 Capt
BK 105 Fd Bty RAA

OP ORDER

OP MARAUDER

OP O 4/65

ENCLOSURE

2

31 Dec 65

MAPS: 6242/1, 4 . 6243/1,2,3,2 . 6244/2,3 , 6342/4 , 6343/3/4 .
6344/3

Op 0 4/65.

1. SIT .a. En Forces. Anx A.b. Own Forces.

(1) 173 Abn Bde with under comd addl med arty sp is to conduct search and destroy ops in area DUC HOA XS 5996, BAO TRAI KT 5304 and SE to SONG DONG XT 5096 and WEST of SONG DONG.

(2) Bde less fwd LOC and 3/319 Arty Bn (-) to be airlifted to BAO TRAI.

(3) Fwd LOC and 3/319 Arty Bn (-) will move by rd to BAO TRAI .

(4) 1 RAR, 1/503, 2/503 airlifted to op area.

(5) USAF will provide air cover throughout.

c. Atts and dets.(1) Under comd from
1700 hrs 31 DecFO party
161 Fd Bty RNZA2. MSN .

In DS 1 RAR within TAOR 18/65 from 1 Jan 66.

3. EXEC .a. Gen Outline .

(1) DS of 1 RAR .

(2) Overlay 1 RAR TAOR Anx P (issued) .

(3) Under comd 3/319 Arty Bn from 1700 hrs 31 Dec 65.

(4) Op conducted in five phases .

(a) Phase 1. Move to op base near LZ WHISKEY .(b) Phase 2. 1 RAR airmob aslt on LZ SCOTCH XT 485 042.(c) Phase 3. 1 RAR ptls in TAOR .(d) Phase 4. Reposh bn bases by hel and allocation of new TAOR.
NOT before D + 5.(e) Phase 5. Extraction to BIEN HOA .b. Zones.(1) Centre of arc - 4700m .(2) Primary Zone - 3400m to 6000 m .(3) Secondary zone - 6000 m to 3400 m ,(4) Shoot down to min range HA .c. Deployment of FO parties .(1) FO1 B Coy
FO2 C Coy
FO3 D Coy
FO 161 Fd Bty RNZA A Coy

(2) Under comd coys in present locs from 1700 hrs 31 Dec 65.

(3) Air OP provided by 161 Fd Bty RNZA.

SECRET

-/2.

- d. Tasks. Fire sp as per Op O 17/65 3/319 Arty Bn.
- e. Registration. Datum pts to be confirmed and engaged by air OP ASP on arrival BAO TRAI.
- f. Time to be ready. ASP but NOT later than 1130 hrs 1 Jan 66.
- g. Svy. SOP.
- h. Protection.
- (1) SOP.
 - (2) Sandbag sangers will be built if the water seepage excels digging personal wpn pits.
 - (3) Guns are to be allocated areas for dir fire DF tasks for bty area def.
- j. Recce.
- (1) BK move with C Bty 3/319 Arty Bn.
 - (2) Bty Recce Party.
 - (a) Composition: H1, K, R1, A plus gun.
 - (b) RIGHT Sec Comd in comd.
 - (c) Move with 3/319 Arty Bn Recce Party with E/17 Cav at 010630H Jan 66.
 - (d) RV as per Anx B op O 17/65 3/319 Arty Bn.
- k. Mov. Anx B.
- l. Co-ord Instrs.
- (1) Timings. Anx C.

4. ADMIN AND LOG.a. Ammo.

- (1) SA. SOP.
- (2) Gun ammo:

HE PD	35 rpg
HE MTSQ	50 Rpg
CVT	10 rpg
WP	4 rpg
Coloured smk	1 rpg

b. Rats.

- (1) Breakfast present loc 1 Jan.
- (2) One days C rats carried on man excl FO parties, LO party and BC party which will carry two days C rats.
- (3) Q1 to carry 1 days C rats for bty.

c. Water.

- (1) SOP.
- (2) Local sources are to be used where possible.
- (3) Irrespective of what source of sup is emp drinking water is to be sterilised and filtered.
- (4) One filter bag per five men is to be carried.

d. Med.

- (1) Casevac. SOP.
- (2) Cpl med asst in gun area.
- (3) Paludrine. One tablet is to be taken immed after morning stand-to and another before evening stand-to under the supervision of NCO 16 party.

e. A Ech.

- (1) Composition. SOP.
- (2) Loc. In gun area except for hel deployment when only elms as ordered by BK will accompany guns.

- f. B Ech.
 - (1) Loc. Present posn.
 - (2) BQMS in comd.
 - (3) All pers on 30 mins notice as rfts.
 - g. Vehs.
 - (1) LOB. H2 and FIA truck 1/4 ton GS.
 - (2) In case of hel move vehs will remain with A Ech with min no of dvr.
 - h. Resup.
 - (1) SOP.
 - (2) For items of AUST origin sec comds are to submit requirements to BK by 1000 hrs daily. Resup to be effected through 1 RAR.
 - j. Pers mov during op.
 - (1) Pers moving between fwd area and B Ech must be in possession of Mob 3.
 - (2) Mob 3s will be issued by BK or Chief Clerk as applicable.
 - (3) Pers moving fwd must rep to QM 1 RAR by 0700 hrs on day of mov.
 - k. Clo.
 - (1) Sec kitbags.
 - (a) Contain spare greens, one pair boots per man and two pairs socks per man.
 - (b) Packed by 311630 hrs.
 - (2) Each man is to carry nets mosquito.
 - (3) Each man is to carry two spare pairs of socks.
 - l. Btys. AN-PRC 25 one spare.
5. COMD AND SIG.
- a. BC. Loc Bn HQ 1 RAR initially LZ SCOTCH. Futher moves will be notified.
 - b. Sig.
 - (1) Radio.
 - (a) Codes. SOI as issued.
 - (b) Eqpt allocations. SOP except LO party. One AN PRC 25 retained as res set with Bty CP.
 - (c) Nets. SOP. 161 Fd Bty RNZA FO call sign 11.
 - (d) DF and HF tasks are to be encoded unless sp arm comd orders otherwise.
 - (2) Line.
 - (a) Pri 1. Fire orders and admin lines laid to 3/319 Arty Bn ASP.
 - (b) Pri 2. Admin line to 1 RAR rep at fwd LOC.
 - c. Nicknames. Anx D.
 - d. Codewords. Anx E.
 - e. Q hr for the period of the op is 1400 hrs.
 - f. Passwords. To be issued separately.
 - g. Pts of origin. Anx F.(To be issued later)
 - h. Synchronisation. Approx 0800 hrs daily during op.

Ruo Ladder Maj
BC 105 Fd Bty RAA

SECRET

Anxs

- A - En Sit.
- B - Mov.
- C - Sequence of events.
- D - Nicknames .
- E - Codewords .
- F - Pts of origin (To be issued later).
- Q - 1 RAR TAOR Overlay (issued) .

DISTRIBUTION

	<u>Copy No incl Anxs</u>
BC	1
BK	2
GPO	3-4
LO	5
OP 1	6
OP2	7
OP3	8
OP4	9
BSM	10
BQMS	11
CC IAD	12
Comds Diary	13-15
File	16
Spare	17-18

SECRET

SECRET

Anx A to
105 Fd Bty RAA
Op O 4/65

EN SIT

1. Composition

- a one probable regt.
- b one probable bn.
- c one possible bn.
- d two local coys.
- e some local militia.

2. Strengths

- a int and security very efficient.
- b control the local population for the most part.
- c familiarity with area.
- d safe havens in CAMBODIA.

3. Weaknesses

- a depend on external sp.
- b lack AA wpns.

4. Likely en reactions.

- a quick coordinated attks on isolated, mutually supporting outposts.
- b strong defence of base areas and secret zones important to future ops.
- c unlikely to completely cut rds due to possible loss of local sp.
- d harassing attks involving use of mors or RCLs.

SECRET

SECRET

Anx B to
105 Fd Bty RAA
Op O 4/65
Dec 65

MOVEMENT ORDERS
Op KICK OFF

Ref: 3/319 Op Ord 17/65

1. SIT

- a. TF 3/319 moves BIEN HOA - BAO TRAI on 1 Jan 66.
- b. TF org see above ref.
- c. 105 Fd Bty is March Unit 5 in colm.

2. EXEC

- a. OOM
LO, B, C, D, TCV 1, D, E, F, Q1, TCV 2, 3 x Ammo vehs,
4 x APCs (PWLH), X, LAD.
- b. PA: Lead veh opp LAD facing out.
- c. SP: Main gate BIEN HOA Air Base.
- d. Route: BIEN HOA - SAIGON via Route 1, SAIGON - CU CHI via
Route 1A, CU CHI - BAO TRAI.
- e. Critical Points: SAIGON. Vehs and march units close head
to tail.
- f. RP: LZ WHISKEY. BK to arrange guide from RP.
- g. Destination: gun posn NORTH of rd grid square 5304.
- h. Speed: as fast as possible commensurate with GTV's
limitations.
- j. Interval:
 - (1) 50 m between vehs
 - (2) 500 m max between march units
 - (3) Through SAIGON: close up head to tail
- k. Halts:
 - (1) Only on breakdown
 - (2) Action on halts: SOP
- l. Allocation of Pers to Addl Tpt: BSM responsible.
- m. Protection:
 - (1) Wpn state of readiness, Stage 2 except through
SAIGON where all wpns unloaded and placed between
knees.
 - (2) Veh Comds, escort/lookouts, canopies: SOP
- n. Timings:

311330H: Veh Comds, dvrs briefed by GPO
010630H: Serial 1 E/17 plus Arty Recce Parties XSP;
Addl TCVs and 4 x APCs arrive gun posn. Bty
vehs at PA. Tpt Sgt responsible.
Bty pde on FORWARD Rd. BSM responsible.

0650H: Mount
0700H: Lead veh Serial 2, TF 3/319 XSP
0710H: ETD base area

3. COMD AND SIGS

- a. (1) Convoy Comd: GPO
(2) Deputy: LO
- b. Convoy Comms.
 - (1) Convoy Comd and Deputy monitor LEATHER SHOVEL
 - (2) X, LO, TCV2, Sec ldr APC on FD 5 (SACKED SPLINT)
 - (3) Manpack radios are to be aval for dismounted counter
ambush action.

SECRET

SECRET

Ann C to 105 Fd Bty
Op 04/65 dated 31 Dec 65.

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Serial	Time	Event
a	b	c
	<u>D-1</u>	
1.	311100 hrs	O Gp
2.	311630 hrs	Cease firing present loc.
	<u>D</u>	
3.	010500 hrs	Reveille
4.	010530 hrs	Breakfast
5.	010630 hrs	BK and Recce Party arrive at RVs
6.	010630 hrs	Bty pde
7.	010650 hrs	Ready to move.
8.	010710 hrs	Leave bty posn (est)
9.	011605 hrs	Prep LZ SCOTCH
10.	011615 hrs	First elms 1 RAR arrive LZ SCOTCH.

Bn Larkum Soft LZ WHISKEY.

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SECRET

NICKNAMES

Anx D to 105
Fd Bty RAA OP
04/65 dated
31 Dec 65.

Ser	Nickname	Meaning
1.	RUBBER STAMP	BAU TRAI
2.	WET SOCK	SONG DONG OR ORIENTAL RIVER
3.	UNCLE TOM	CAMBODIANS
4.	BARNEY RUBBLE	ARVN/PF
5.	CASTLE PEAK	Bn Har or Def Posn
6.	PIRATE PLANK	Water crossing pt
7.	ARNHEM LAND	Area WEST of WET SOCK

SECRET

SECRET

Anx E to 105 Fd
Bty Op 0 4/65
dated 31 Dec 65

CODEWORDS

Ser	Codeword	Meaning
1.	GUT RUMBLE	Am moving, or move
2.	COW PAT	Have reorg, have RV, or am in posn.
3.	PACK SADDLE	Am ready to move, prep to move.
4.	SQUARE LEG	LZ secure.
5.	KINGS CROSS	Ready bty grid.
6.	SAINT KILDA	Cease firing
7.	PETRIE BIGHT	Report guns empty
8.	VICTOR HARBOUR	Empty guns at GR.....
9.	PIG IRON	DF
10.	MING THISTLE	HF
11.	SECOND TEST	JAMMING
12.	DAVIS CUP	Change frequency.

SECRET

UNIT OPERATION ANALYSIS
OF MARAUDER
OF CRIMP

105 FD BTY RAA
JNIT OPERATION ANALYSIS
OP "MARAUDER" 1 - 7 JAN 66
OP "CRIMP" 9 - 14 JAN 66

Op O's

- | | | |
|----|--|--|
| 1. | 105 Fd Bty RAA
1 RAR

3/319 Us Arty Bn. | 4/65
18/65
1/66
17/65
1/66 |
|----|--|--|

Tasks

2. In DS 1 RAR thus:-
- a. Moving by rd to and from operational TAOR's
 - b. Deployment by helicopter within TAOR's
 - c. Co-ordinating all artillery missions for the supported Bn

Sequence of Events

- ... 3. Attached as Annex A

COMMENTS

General

4. Operations MARAUDER and CRIMP were the second and third operations in which the bty was in DS 1 RAR. Three major road moves, two deployments by CH 47 (CHINOOK) and determined enemy made these operations the most challenging to date.

Command and Deployment

5. As was proven by the deployment of the guns by CHINOOK to LZ COLLINS, and the subsequent move to posn KING, the BR must be prepared to receive orders from the Arty Bn CO and act without formal orders from the BC.

In this situation he assumes the role of the US Arty BC. At the same time the general area for the guns should be selected by the BC, possibly on advise from FO's who must be alert for likely gun areas. These in Op MARAUDER were difficult to find. Other points of interest regarding deployment were:

- a. Until these operations the bty had not trained for movement by CH 47's. Despite this, both moves went satisfactorily. A provisional SOP has been worked out indicating that a minimum of 10 CHINOOK sorties are required (excl vehicles). It is essential that pathfinder liaison teams arrive early.
- b. The three road moves once again illustrated that the bty moves far more easily by air. To lift 100 REG plus 80 personnel requires an additional 7x2 1/2 ton GS vehicles which must come from external sources.

Control

Control

- 6.
 - a. Clearance : Until Army Avn realises that others use the air major advantages of arty i.e. its flexibility and immediate response will be denied to the supported arms. More reliance should be placed on the Air OP, the gun No 1, the FO, all of whom can visually control safety.
 - b. Co-ordination and Control : Under the present system it is difficult to co-ordinate the firing of more than one bty or handle two tgts simultaneously as there is no net which is monitored by all FDC's and LO's. Several times during CRIMP situations arose in which the BC had to switch from net to net thus causing delay, irritating and unconvincing to the infantry. Simultaneous conversations with all LO's and selected fire units are not possible.

Communications

- 7. The following points are made :-
 - a. The bty net functioned satisfactorily except for:
 - (1) Several lapses in security in the use of the KAC codes and referring to units in clear. In the absence of address groups identify units by their Bde Comd Net call signs
 - (2) Several operators needlessly repeat messages.
 - (3) The FDC 25 handset, lacking a loudspeaker must be held close to the ear at all times. The bty sig sgt is to investigate the adaption of the FDC 9 loudspeaker to the FDC 25.
 - b. It is not satisfactory to allow helicopters deploying the bty to use the fire direction (FD) net. The pilots lack radio discipline and due to the power of their sets completely disrupt communications. The alternate frequency is to be used in future.

CB

- 8. Most units of the Bde were attacked by 60mm or 81mm mors. A speedy CB system was not possible because:-
 - a. Units not receiving the fire did not bother to submit mort-reps thus making it difficult to obtain an adequate intersec-tion of bearings to primaries and;
 - b. Units did not inform other units when firing their own organic mors thus clogging FCC with unnecessary information. It is believed that the fire control (FC) or Bde Comd net should be used for this purpose.

Ammunition

- 9. The situation regarding ammunition is unsatisfactory and unsafe e.g. illuminating and coloured smoke which do not function, cartridges deficient propellant bags, and too many propellant lots in resupply (a total of 19 lots (RE) in 705 Bty).

Photo Coverage

10. Whilst the 1:50000 series of the area is accurate the recent photos supplied for MARAUDER and CRIMP were excellent and greatly assisted the BC and FO's in map spotting, and air-ground target description. This was particularly necessary in the flat region of the ORIENTAL River and the large scale photo of Op CRIMP TAOR was ideal.

Summary

11. All personnel of the bty learnt a tremendous amount during these operations and in particular the gun position personnel are to be commended for the rapid occupation of posn KING with the imminent prep of LZ MARCH, the ease in which, with no training whatsoever, the bty moved by CHINOOK and the marked improvement in speedy and accurate response to calls for fire.

27 Jan 66

Ruo Jedd Maj
BC 105 Fd Bty RAA

Distr

3/319 Arty Bn	2	Comds Diary	3
1 RAR	2	BC	1
Gun Tp	3	BK	1
OP Tp	5	Spare	5
LAD	1		

Sequence of Events

Date/Time	Event	Remarks
291900	Received op order from 1 RAR.	
301700 -2100	105 Fd Bty RAA op order produced ("Op MARAUDER")	
010700	Bty left BIEN HOA for BAU TRAI by road.	RAR staged at BAU TRAI for approx 7 hrs.
010915	BCs plus OP parties departed SNAKE PIT by HUIB with 1 RAR, for BAU TRAI. 1 RAR in Bn Harbour posn.	
011135	KIWI Air OP registered D1, GR 4865 0497 .	<u>NOTE</u> : Guns did NOT report ready bty grid.
011325	7 Serial Fire Plan organized for preparation of LZ "SCOTCH"	Search and Sweep employed rather than 16 separate tgts.
011415	BC 105 Vty, G2 1 RAR air recce LZ SCOTCH to confirm new loc (GR 483038)	
011530	BC and CO 1 RAR air obs of air & arty prep LZ SCOTCH Air strike at "SCOTCH". Air refused to strike new LZ and continued to strike what was future Bn Harbour posn.	Indicates lack of Co-ord (At Bde level)
011605	Air strike concluded. Arty prep of new LZ SCOTCH. Choppers now to land old LZ SCOTCH. Too late to change Arty fire plan	
011730	1 RAR asst LZ SCOTCH - LZ was a swamp.	In fact helicopter landed in an LZ which was prepared by neither air nor arty.
011800	Bn in harbour posn. Difficulty in co-ord of HF & DF due to poor ^{poor} report reporting. Terrain flat .	Found polaroid picture taken by Maj E-C invaluable in ascertaining locstats.
011930	"MING THISTLE" (H&I) TIDDLER passed to guns. Serials 1, 2 & 3 later cancelled-unsafe. New serial, & serial 7 added. DF Tasktable passed - 4 serials.	
020217	Intrep - 1 VC Bn + 2 Coys + 1 heavy sp ^{sp} coy, str 500 reported at GR 470037.	
020242	Above GR engaged.	
020830	CO 1 RAR O Gp - sectors allotted to coys.	
022020	TIDDLER "BIG PUFF" for sp of pting coys, passed to control & C/S 24.	Three coys deployed to locate and destroy VC Bn (See Intrep of 020217)
021105	C/S 23 reported finding of bunkers in sector.	
021314	Error during sec tgt regn with KIWI Air OB. C/S 22 reported one rd landed 50 metres from Foxhound C/S 33. Check conducted at guns - no error found.	Incomplete ch bags? Now SOP to check all ready-use rounds for correct no. of charge bags.
021530	C/S 22 & 23 reported contact with 3 VC with Auto wpn. Nil results.	
021652	From C/S 22 - fire from two different directions at helicopter landing Bn harbour.	
021852	C/S 29 sent 5 serial TIDDLER to control & C/S 24.	
022200	Error one gun firing one serial H&I, Error unable to be traced. All following serials H&I cancelled.	See 021314
020902	Contact B Coy GR 478048 1 VC KIA - 1 carbine captured.	
030950	B Coy contact - NTR - contact lost.	
031135	Ironsides having difficulty moving to posn due to terrain. Will probably push on to sector 6 without Ironsides. (From C/S 11)	Tracks finally bogged later. Security Coy withdrawn and moved to LZ COLLINS on foot. Tracks took over 36 hours to recover bogged vehs.
031200	Bn CP issued msg 0 for move. At 15 mins notice to move from 1430 hrs.	

Date/ Time	Event	Remarks
031205	C/S 22 reported C Coy had found huts showing signs of recent habitation. Books & training pamphlets on booby trap construction.	
031243	Bty fired bty tgt GR 477023 in sp B Coy aslt -4 VC	
031345	Tiddler TOM JONES passed - 6 serials - from C/S 29 to control & C/S 24 in sp heli aslt LZ COLLINS. H hr 1535 hrs.	
031500	FCC closed down.	
031600	Lift into LZ COLLINS - security provided by A Coy, C Coy. Bty tgt fired by C/S 11 - Tgt XC213 immediately prior to lift - 4 VC sighted	Ground fire received by choppers near LZ
031650	C/S 29 locstat GR 470 020.	
031730	H&Is recd by FCC. Bn now in Harbour posn.	
031920	1 serial DF Tiddler sent by C/S 29 to C/S 24 & control.	
040815	BC on a recce of new gun posn.	CO 3/319 visited posn selected by BC at 1015 hrs.
040852	C/S 23 reported D Coy destroyed 12 bags rice GR 472 016. Five huts found - apparently used as an aid station.	
040940	C/S 22 fired bty tgt GR 478033.	
041915	C/S 9 fired datum. Corrn D40.	
041015	CO 3/319 plus BK 105 Bty and XO C/3/319 arrived Bn posn to conduct ground & air recce.	Gun posns to WEST Bn Loc extending 250 m in cane fields. Gun platforms poor.
041030	C/S 23 reported contact GR 479 031 - 4 VC mov NORTH	
041245	Bty Recce pty arrived LZ COLLINS.	
041315	C/S 23 reported finding hut GR 466015 containing 60mm mor rds plus other ammo. Male suspect detained. Claims armed VC have moved across river.	
041500	Bty arrived by CHINOOK helicopter LZ COLLINS. Also C Bty 3/319 Arty arrived same LZ.	
041630	Bty ready - bty grid.	Gun platforms very bad - soggy and with poor drainage.
042030	B Coy harbour posn GR 473999. Encountered 1t opposition en route. 4 DF tgts requested. BI was DR SOS.	
042130	Locstats:- Bn CP + BC unchanged. A Coy NORTH edge LZ COLLINS B Coy - 473999 C Coy - WEST edge LZ COLLINS D Coy - SOUTH LZ COLLINS	
050830	1/503 moving to area GR 463038 for S&D ops in that area. BRU indicates that H&I has been effective.	
050925	Air strike terminated, gun tgt GR 475 996. Air strike effective. C/S 21 observing and correcting. VC observed to be in area prior to strike B Coy followed up immediately after strike.	This air strike and Bty tgt was a good example of close intimate co-ord between FAC & FCC
051130	BC ordered 105 Bty & C Bty 3/319 to take str bring both onto common grid. Sunshots to be Datum shoots fired for GR 3, 4. e	Not completed. Initial recce failed to find a good point of origin for fixation. Sunshots were not done as bty does not have a 66 almanac. Gun group had only 73 men avail after leaving small A Ech at BAY TRAI. Could not raise a stdg pti of sufficient str. Made do with 6 sentry posts
051200	BC's conference with S3 1 BAR re difficulty defence of gun posn. 2 Foxhound standing ptls N & S of gun posn for that ni.	
060810	Sitrep from C/S 29 to control. C Coy standing pti engaged 3-5 VC at GR 473016 at 2212 hrs with mors & SA. No VC cas found. Anticipated move of 1 BAR back to LZ RUBBER STAMP at approx 1630 hrs.	

* Result Ch 3 - 4250 M3d
Ch 4 - 4210 M3d

-/3 061237.....

Date/ Time	Event	Remarks	
061237	Bty cease firing. First helicopters arrived LZ COLLINS	Move went quite smoothly though SOP not yet firm. <i>67247's</i> avail at commencement of lift - LZ could only handle two at any time.	
061432	Last helicopter departed LZ COLLINS with 105 Bty		
061504	Bty ready at BAO TRAI	BC observed airburst which were not difficult to adjust for line or fuse. Airburst clearly seen at night. No cloud, visibility good.	
061615	CCoy 1 RAR extracted from LZ COLLINS to RUBBER STAMP. Remainder 1 RAR stayed at COLLINS.		
062332	Foxhound CP requested fire on River traffic GR 468 028. Bty fired tgt using airburst. Also fired tgt GR 470008.		
070845	FCC arrived BAO TRAI. Remainder of 1 RAR being moved from LZ COLLINS to BAO TRAI.	Exact grid reference obtained by conjoint use of large scale photo and map (1:50000). Precise loc necessary - no mistakal, no time for registration.	
071100	FCC received msg 0 Op 1/66 to commence 3 Jan 66. Period 3-5 days. 15 mins notice to move 080830. CO's order 1500 hrs. Coy Comds & BC's recce 1600 hrs.		
071100	BC attended CO 3/319 0 Gp new operation to WEST of "IRON TRIANGLE" to be named Operation "GRIMP". Refer 3/319 Op Order 1/66.		
071500	CO 1 RAR 0 Gp		
071600	CO, BC's recce LZ MARCH.		
072100	BC issued Tiddler for LZ MARCH prep Bde man for GRIMP TO CAPTURE and/or eliminate the political/mil HQ directing activities within SAIGON/CHOLON/GIA DIN area. Reported loc grid sq 6326.		
080630	Bty crossed SL on way to posn KING (gun posn for GRIMP) Guns to hold short of KING until 0806 hrs to allow for B52 strike.		
080905	Bty ready		Arrived 0900 ready 0905, prepared and fired preparation 0915.
080915	First elements 1 RAR departed BAO TRAI for helicopter aslt LZ MARCH.		Extensive bunkers. Close jungle with isolated clearings. Contact too close for safe use either air or arty.
080935	Leading elements 1 RAR reported receiving ground fire on way in.		
081000	Remainder of 1 RAR arrived LZ MARCH.		
081015	Rifle Coys moving off LZ to Bn posn. Striking some opposition.		
081230	Foxhound C/S 43 ambushed. Fired arty (105, 161 Btys) + remainder of Bn in rear. Could not indicate for air strike due to lack of time. CO 1 RAR directed coys to throw smk rather than wait. No tgts obs by ground OP's due to terrain and patterns of mov. US Air OP did majority of shooting. Confusion due to voice procedure.		
081245	Foxhound C/S 3 reported 2 WU KIA.		
081315	C/S 3 reported booby trap exploded in their area. A member WIA incl OC C Coy.		
081355	Gunner sp denied due to Arty & Air prep of LZ's APRIL & MAY	The air was full of helicopters and other ac. Shooting would have been unsafe.	
081400	Approx 9 x 105mm rds landed 150 metres SOUTH of Bn CP, during above prep. BC ordered STOP. Offending bty identified as B Bty 3/319	Moved had been delayed until arty sp avail. Arty sp denied due to heliborne aslts by 1, 2/503	
081500	FCC moved with Bn HQ approx 500 metres to find loc.		

-/4 081515 B Coy exploded mine...

Date/ Time	Event	Remarks
081515	B Coy exploded mine. whilst sweeping through to posn. Capt BADE KIA. Mine command detonated GR 655289 Gnr LLOYD evac. Number of other WIA (from B Coy)	
081520	Bty received SA fire through posn.	
081800	CO's O Gp. DF's organised for night. No ambush ptls for ni. CO thinks VC Bn recently occupied area.	
081930	FOC passed HF TIDDLER to C/S 24 & control.	
082145	Sitrep from C/S 29. Isolated & continuous en action encountered from X hr. Area extensively & recently fortified and tunnelled.	
082145	Dump bunkers and tunnels found. Med aid station found by B Coy GR 650281 at 1130 hrs. VC KIA - 6. VCC - 70 plus, mostly women and children. Own tps all subunits within 200 metres of Bn HQ. Friendly cas 4 KIA 15 WIA.	All KIA claims MUST be confirmed by bodies. Probable kills much higher.
090715	Sitrep from C/S 29. At 0243 hrs 6 en approached C/S 61 posn-fired-withdrew in two different directions. Vast caches of wpns and ammo found yesterday. Tear gas and smoke to possibly be used today. Own tps locstat no change from last sitrep. Offr C/S 21 replaced at 081800 hrs by Lt JANSSEN.	
090935	C/S 9 fired datum GR 6350 2983. Corrn M44	This does not indicate that cal is incorrect as does the CHRONOGRAPH readings.
090930- 1100	CO & BC visited all coys. More extensive tunnels and bunkers discovered. Documents being found indicate Pol/MIL trg area. Area obviously vacated hurriedly. Addl ammo MG's SMG's and much rice plus pers clothing found.	
091325	Foxhound Sunray has changed plans slightly and is patrolling to the NORTH & SOUTH	
091340	C/S 29 engaged Bty tgt GR 642295 with bty. C/S 73 had trouble with our VP. Finally relayed all orders to Control & C/S 24. 24 relayed orders by line to FLUSH TARIFF. Tgt 15 VC. Airbourne FAC obs. Air Strike foll. Recorded XC 125.	Failing a Comd frequency if would appear that relaying all orders to 24 would be the most satisfactory method. The use of AB FAC to obs fire went well with his obs being relayed by gnd FAC all IRAR.
091400	All coys reported ptling.	
091432	C/S 22 engaged Bty Tgt GR 643 298 - VC firing at planes. AA.	
091450	C/S 29 engaged bty tgt GR 641 284. VC AA posn.	
091610	Mor rds fell 600 metres to Bn's WEST.	
091717	C/S 22 reported 2 VC KIA in two separate incidents GR 647288.	
091730	DF's same as last night.	
091945	More mortaring near Bn Posn.	
092045- 2130	2 Btys used to engage MING WHISTLE (H&I) tgts Serials 1,7,9,10,11,12 as DF's in depth.	
092200	C Coy contact	
100055	D Coy engaged VC with auto fire and mor fire (Tgt B2)	
100430	C/S 11 reported small contact hrs loc-IVC	
100530	Bty Tgt GR 638271 - mors firing.	
100705	Sitrep from C/S 29 : Major eqpt found in area:- Uncountable amts of ammo: 1x57m RR 4x50 cal AAMG's 50x81m mor bombs Explosives & fuzes 100 + grenades. C/S 2, & 3 reported additl tunnelling & bunkers, some freshly dug.	

-/5 En mortaring from

Date, Time	Event	Remarks
100705 (cont'd)	En mortaring from grid square 6227. Commenced 1400 hrs approx and continued through ni. All rds fall outside posn perimeter. "Mighty Mite" being used on tunnels and bunkers. C/S 2 reported 2 VC KIA as result of ni contact. Engrs being used to search tunnels.	
101010	Tiddler to 29 & 24 for heavies & 155's "BIG DEAL"	CB fire on likely mov posns.
101101	All tgts unsafe because 1/503 in area.	Air strike had previously been placed in gun area. Later firing from this mov indicated that the PYTHON strike plus shelling had forced him to move.
101110	C/S 22 reported finding crude gas masks & med supplies in tunnels in area.	
101129	Ref "BIG DEAL" - 4 more serials - safe. 8" guns to engage.	
101202	Heavies shot serial 9 } suspected mor locs	
101241	Heavies shot serial 7 }	
101245	C/S 22 reported control 1 VC KIA 1 wounded. Foxhound following blood trails. Received notification that operation would continue for 3-5 days, guns notified.	Due to time taken in inspecting, removing finds of arms and docs and demolishing tunnels.
101500	C/S 2 & 3 reported finding typewriter, documents, pers eqpt, asstd ammo & med dressings.	
102205	Contact Foxhound 3 loc. C/S 22 fired illum shoot rounds ineffective - did NOT burst. Fired more effective. Dustoff for friendly gas - Foxhound C/S 3. Sniper in C Coy tunnel.	Fuzes could not be taken off to treat shell and free canisters. Fuzes were buried into shell.
102350	Dustoff helicopter for gun posn - 2 friendly WIA	Std Ptl shot itself!
111015	More extensive tunneling found by Foxhound C/S 2 & 4.	
111056	C/S 22 fired single gun illum-checking ammo.	Ammo functioned only partially
111115	Contact Foxhound C/S 1. Nil result as yet.	low burning time, did not burn (but canisters were ejected) and only 30% functioned efficiently.
111515	Sitrep from C/S 29. More tunnels found. One system of tunnels contained 3 levels. Canine being employed.	
111800	12 Serial MING THISTLE passed to C/S 24 & control DF's no change.	
111858	General stop of H&I firing between 2100 & 0700 hrs	Direction by CG due to confusion whether mortaring from friendly or enemy. Bde cmd net should be used by units to report when each fire their own mortars.
112057)	All H&Is to be fired before 2100 hrs.	
120710	Sitrep from C/S 29:- more tunnels found by C/S 3&4 C/S 3 also found 15 tons rice. GR 648 288 1 Chicom carbine & 1 russian rifle plus sniper-scope found. Also large canisters of document & med eqpt.	
21300	BK to FCC. Brought up results of instrumental calibration.	Cal check to be performed
+112057	Last serial MING THISTLE fired.	Instrumental cal NOT acceptable according to Brit gunnery technique.
21715	Sitrep :- C/S 4 took 2 men, 3 women & 6 children into custody.	
21812	MING THISTLE unchanged from previous night, except serials 4, 5 deleted. Serials 13-15 added.	
21925	Serials 9-12 cancelled (unsafe)	
	BC's comments on instr calibration as per FCC log. In short, NOT to be adopted. Also narrow shape of TAOR greatly decreased ability to employ arty. 1 & 2/503 crossed 1 BAR boundaries without 1 BAR's permission.	Tunnels required employment of 8" and 155mm guns with delay fuze. However units were too close for their safe use.
130750	Sitrep from C/S 29:- 50 VCC (Mainly women) evacuated. B Coy heard digging in his area prev ni. Grenade thrown in between C/S 3 & 61 at 2302 hrs nil cas. BC advised that ammo state satisfactory.	

-/6 No replenishment action...

Date Time	Event	Remarks
130750 Cont,	No replenishment action to be taken unless notified	
131135	Air OP conducted Datum shoot, incl correction of moment. Result M34d D19. KIWI met D260.	See remarks of 090930 hrs
131242	Ch 7 Cal check on 662297	
131600	Be attended CO's O Gp. Plans for extraction LZ... JULY given. 1 VC found dead GR 651290. Sitrep Ptlins continued. Holdfast blowing tunnels. Tiddler "PLUM PUDDING" on call from 140700 hrs.	"PLUM PUDDING" was on call tgts for move of bn to LZ JULY Approx distance 5000m
132055	Guns reported people moving L to R in front of gun posn. BC clarified standing ptls duties in regard to firing.	Needed due to CG's direction that in posn KIWI units were only to fire in defence of themselves.
132050	+ See BC's notes FCC log ref air strike & arty fire between 660282 & 660278. Also notes re US & our VP.	
131700	BC visited all OPO's to co-ord PLUM PUDDING for move to LZ JULY. 140730.	
140730	First 1 RAR elements depart for LZ JULY C/S 3 slightly lost on way. Arrived in time for extraction.	
140940	First CHINOOKS arrived.	
141100	All 1 RAR plus atts return SNAKE PIT.	
141430	105 Fd Bty returned BLEN HOA by road. Nil incidents	Addl tpt provided by 43AFB from PVLH

CONFERENCE ON OP MARAUDER AND CRIMP

ENCLOSURE

4

105 PD BTY RAA
DEBRIEFING

CONFERENCE ON OPS "MARAUDER" 1-7 JAN 66
AND "CRIMP" 8-14 JAN 66

1. Present

EC	Capt G BIRCH RNZA	Bty Guide
BK	BSM	Sig Sgt
GPO	BQMS	OC LAD
OP2		

Serial	Subject	Action by
1.	BC gave brief outline of both OP "MARAUDER" and OP "CRIMP". Explained action of 1 RAR.	NIL
2.	<u>Gun Discussion</u> OP2 discussed problems encountered with shooting illumination targets during Op "CRIMP". It was decided by BC to ensure in future that unusual ammo, e.g., illuminating, coloured smoke etc, is kept on one gun in each section. One gun per section will have all of that sections illuminating, another all the coloured smoke, etc. + Amendment to be made to SOP's	OP Tp
3.	Point was raised by OP2 about the difficulty encountered whilst trying to keep track of mortreps, whilst there was so much firing going on.	
4.	C/S 11 that 3/319 Arty Bn or 1 RAR organise some type of CB organisation to decide which mortars firing are friendly and which are hostile. He stated that there appeared to be a lack of co-ordination between the firing of the various infantry battalions' mortars.	
5.	<u>Safety</u> BC mentioned that due to the urgency of the tactical situation use of close tgt procedure is the exception to the rule. All members on gun posn to be aware of this. He stressed that the Tac map in the Comd Post with current loc stats be used for every tgt.	
6.	<u>BK</u> (i) Standard of efficiency of guns was good-in defence, in Nos 1 org of gun platforms etc. (ii) Routine on gun posn to be revised, due to lack of air threat. (iii) Maps being left behind at BIEN HOA of Cp area. Desperate shortage during op. Sgt BURMANN to control issue more tightly. 'X' party to carry surrounding maps of area for OP parties. Bty CP to carry maps for rest of guns. Maps to be taken not only for immediate op area, but also for area into which op may extend. (SOP) (iv) Misuse of tannoy for adm messages. (v) Small arms accident near gun posn. (vi) When handling extremely important mortreps into FDC. No co-ordination. <u>BC's Note:</u> Mortreps still to be sent. Determination of whether friendly or hostile to be made at FDC, or FCC (vii) Move of Bty by CHINOOK helicopters. First move a shambles. Internal loading of guns not satisfactory. External loading is far more preferable. Manhandling is much improved if gun is moved with 3 sections straight and trail in wide posn. Second bty move much improved-whole bty in, a little over 40 mins.	BK OP Tp SPO GPO

Serial	Subject	Action by
	<p>(viii) Loads for CHINOOK move:-</p> <p><u>Standard Load 1</u> - 1 x GP; R stores sling; 20 pers. (one of these) TOTAL 7700 lbs.</p> <p><u>Standard Load 2</u> - 1 x gun; 4 pers of that gun; 40 boxes (six of these) ammo. TOTAL 8664 lbs.</p> <p><u>Standard Load 3</u> - 3 lots section stores; 10 pers; 40 boxes (two of these) ammo. TOTAL 8300 lbs.</p> <p><u>Standard Load 4</u> - Q Store - 20 pers; 20 boxes of ammo. (one of these) TOTAL 8400 lbs.</p> <p><u>TOTAL OF TEN LOADS</u> (Provisional SOP)</p>	
	(ix) Comms for chopper deployment ^{use} bty secondary frequency because of powerful ac set cutting out all other stations.	Sig Sgt
	(x) It is possible to lift 2 x landrovers in one CHINOOK. Bolts of canopy to be loosened so lowered canopy will allow vehs in.	GPO
	(xi) Possibility of taking one landrover fwd in CHINOOK. BC decided this to be HI, for comms.	GPO
	(xii) Need for liaison with helicopter staff prior to a move.	BK
7.	Requirement for much higher standard of inf minor tactics because of requirement to provide ptls etc. Gunners need more trg on fd signals etc.	ALL
8.	<u>GPO:</u> Keeping of tgt numbers and tgt records. GPO to remind FCC re cancellation of recorded targets no longer required.	GPO
9.	Task Tables preferably sent by officers, not operators, and must be received by officers. (SOP)	ALL
10.	Ammo states to be taken down by all operators on bty net.	ALL
11.	<u>ESM:</u> Mentioned practice of Nos. 1 repacking ammunition in incorrect boxes, i.e. WP in HE/PD boxes, after cease firing has been given. BC indicated that ESM would run a one day course on ammunition for gun Nos. 7.	Gun Tp
12.	<u>Sig Sgt:</u> (i) Spoke about security on nets; proper use of address groups and map codes; (ii) Also stressed that people <u>sending</u> tiddlers listed to ensure that it is read back <u>correctly</u> .	ALL ALL
13.	<u>HQMS:</u> All Q requisitions to be cleared with BK and Q rep before requesting on rear link for resupply.	ALL

Dated: 21 Jan 66

R. W. Ledder Maj
EC 105 Fd Bty RAA

DISTRIBUTION

- All present (10)
- Sec Comds (2)
- LO (1)
- Comd's Diary (3)
- Spare (5)

105 Fd Bty RAA : ADM INSTR

Jan 66

105 FD BTY : ADM/TRG INSTR 1/66

Aim of Instruction

1. Is to lay down the trg programme and administration projects to be completed during 24 Jan - 12 Feb and to allot priorities to each activity/project.

Priorities and Allocation of Responsibilities

2. See Annex "A" for a detailed list, in order of priority of each activity/project.
3. It should be clearly understood that whatever priority is allocated in this instr the primary task of the bty is to provide DS for 1 RAR in their current op men. All other matters are subservient to this task.

Method and Subject Matter for each Trg Activity

4. See Annex "B"

Block Timetable

5. See Annex "C"

Staff Projects

6. In addition to trg/adm tasks detailed in Annex "A" the fol staff projects are current :-
 - a. New secs and amdts to SOPs - Capt HUTCHINSON
 - b. Stocktake of Pams and itemising deficiencies and shortcomings - Capt HUTCHINSON
 - c. Adm SO's for Rear Area - Capt STARK

Daily Routine for Trg

7. 0815 - 0845 Morning Pde . Preparation . Routine adm
 0845 - 1010 Two x 40 min periods
 1030 - 1200 Two x 40 min periods
 1330 - 1600 Three x 40 min periods

Co-ordination

8. Pers selected as permanent labour for erection of aluminium huts will not be decreased or changed without BKs approval and will remain under his direction for work until released. Pers selected will not be in category of :-

- a. Potential or actual layers
- b. Pers required for ammo instr

-/2/9. Sig Trg

9. Sig Trg has been eliminated because of the hy load on OP Tp due to responsibility to provide pers for manning the FCC and FO's in Sp 1 RAR ops.

Administration

10. Routine adm and other minor projects arising fol the publication of this instr will be completed from 0815 - 0845 daily or on the Adm days detailed (1 & 12 Feb).

Day to Day Co-ord

11. Will be achieved at BC's conference at 1030 hrs each day.

Detailed Syllabus and Daily Programme

12. Will be submitted to Capt HUTCHINSON by 230900 hrs for collation.

R. J. Jedd Maj
BC 105 Fd Bty RAA

Distribution :

Gun Tp	12	BC	1
OP Tp	6	BK	1
Admin Tp	1	BSM	1
LAD	1	File	1
Comds Diary	3		

PRIORITIES OF ACTIVITIES/PROJECTS

Pri	Trg/Activities/Adm Project	Time Alotted (Days)	Responsibility
1.	Comparation Calibration Chs 7,6,5,4	4	BC
2.	Completion of PX and other alloy huts for Q Store, Ord Room etc.,	-	BK assisted by permanent cadre provided by OP, Gun Tp.
3.	Briefing Tent and associated maps etc.,	-	OP Tp(Sgt BUHMANN)
4.	Ammo Instr	2	BSM
5.	Layer Trg	4	TSM/Nos 1, 7(NB:GPO President of Testing Board)
6.	Inf Minor Tac	3	Lt JANSEN Al's Sgt FANNING Sgt McDONALD Sgt WILLS
7.	Range Practices	2	Capt HUTCHINSON to Co-ord with R&R and issue verbal orders/timings etc
8.	ECPK (fitted in whenever possible)	-	GPO

NOTES ON EACH TRG ACTIVITY

Comparative Calibration

1. Yet to be approved in principle by COMAAFV.

Ammo Instr

2.
 - a. To teach Gun Bdrs and potential Nos 7's sorting identification servicing and preparing ammo.
 - b. Finish with brief oral and/or written test at Det Comd level.
 - c. BSM may call on Bty Guide as asst instr.
 - d. Gun Tp to nominate students.

Layer Trg

3.
 - a. To train or requalify Cl I layers.
 - b. Gun Tp to select potential Cl I Gunners.
 - c. Cl I tests Mon 31 Jan. GPO as president of Examining Board.

SA Trg

4.
 - a.
 - (1) Zeroing
 - (2) AR practice
 - (3) OME practice
 - b.
 - (1) 26 Jan : Gun Tp
 - (2) 27 Jan : Remainder of bty
 - c. Range Staff and nature of practises

Capt HUTCHINSON to co-ord with 1 RAR and issue verbal orders ASP.

Inf Minor Tactics

5.
 - a. Particular emphasis on fieldcraft, section formations, field signals, organisation, briefing and conduct of patrols, fire and movement, sentries by day and night, fire control and rules of engagement.
 - b. All gun tp as students

Annex "C" to 105 Pd Bty
Trg Instr 1/66

BLOCK TIME TABLE T/G ACTIVITIES : 24 JAN - 12 FEB 66

Ger	SUBJECT	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Comparative Cal										X	X	X	X							
2.	Bldg aluminium huts																				
3.	Ammo Instr					X	X														
4.	Layer Teg	X	X		X				X												
5.	I M T																X	X	X	X	
6.	Rge Prac			X	X																
7.	BCPX		X			X															
8.	Ada Days									X						X					
9.	Spare															X					X

Separate bty det from all other activities.

half bty ea day Gun Tp on 26 Jan
filled in whenever possible. GPO
to org 2 x BCPs on 24 Jan
BK to org

Op 0 1/66 : OP 3/66

Not issued
BTY remained on standby
but not called upon.

Copy No
105 Fd Bty RAA
BIEN HOA
021900 H Feb 66

OP O 1/66 : OP 3/66 : ~~OP~~ PEABODY

Maps : TAN UYEN , PHUOC VINH 1:50000

1. SIT

a. En Forces

TBA

b. Friendly Forces

(1) TF IRAR conducts a search and destroy op
within AO from PHUOC TOC 9832 NORTH
to SONG BE in War Zone D.

(2) TF O9

- 1 RAR
- E/17 US Cav
- B1 APC TP PWLH
- 105 Fd Bty RAA
- B/3/319 Bn US Art

(3) Phases

- I Rd mov of Cav, ~~APC~~ PWLH, guns, 3 Coy, 1
to 9832
- II Insertion of Bu H, A, C, D Coys into
LZ ^{immediately} EAST of gun posn by helo.
- III IRAR pth to NORTH
- IV Extraction of inf coys and rd mov
back

f. Registration and Meteor

- (1) Air OP avail to both blips for registration / datum shoots which are to be performed at least once daily
- (2) ~~to~~ ~~will~~ Meteor usgs : ~~to~~ ~~will~~ pass ~~these~~ LO to fuel meteor usgs in clear when they become avail. Contact DRILLER 2 off PROPEL switch.

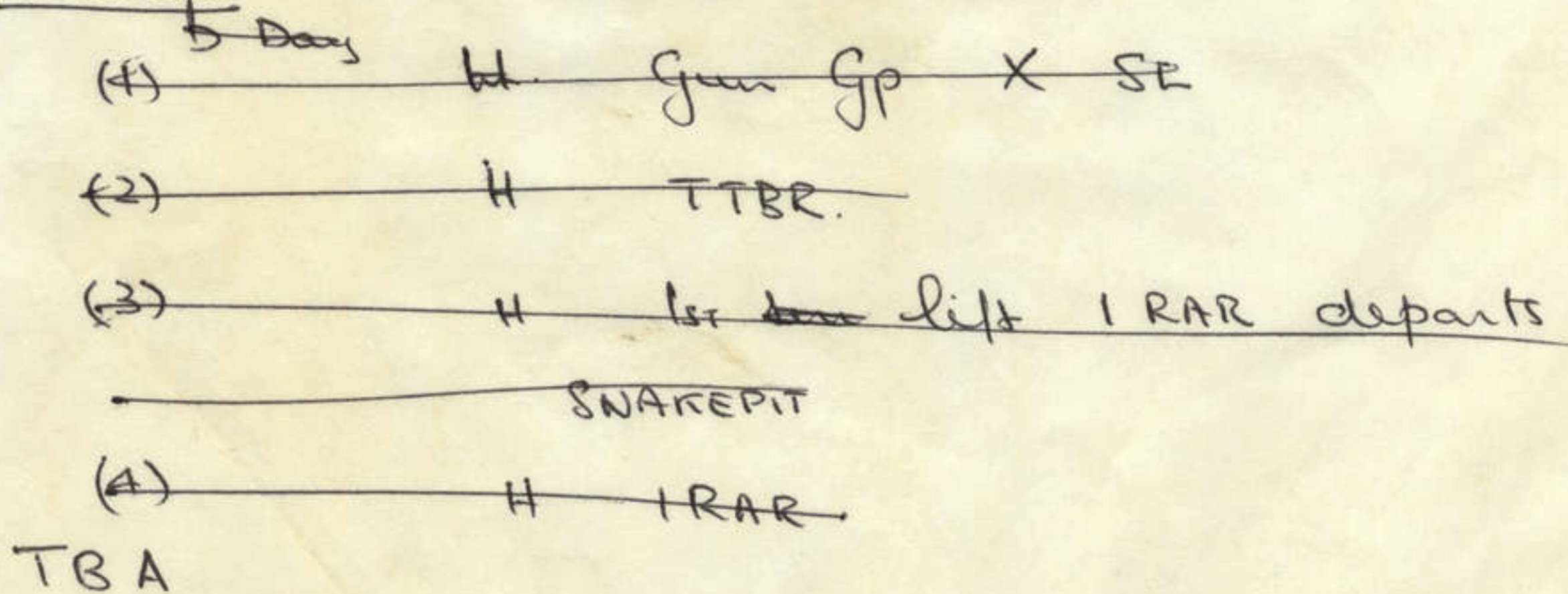
g. Suy

GPO is to provide suy to both blips.

h. Protection and Joe Def

- (1) OC B Coy will co-ord loc def for ^{sp base.} ~~protection~~
- (2) F/17, 1 APC Tp (PWLH), provide perimeter def by air
- (3) DF, HF for gun posn should be ~~allocated~~ to ~~1st~~ ~~IRAR~~. ~~requested as normal~~. notified to BC by TIDDLER.
- (4) Stage 1 by 041900 H
" 2 " 051900 H
- (5) Ea veh will carry 100 sandbags.

i. Timings



c. Atts and Dets

105 Fd Bln, B/3/319 Bln are under comd B Coy
for ^{now} adm and loc det

(1) In sp from 040700 until rd coln out of
rge : 161 Fd Bln RNZA

(2) In sp for C4H and Air OP ac : 161 Recce Flt

2. MSN

105 Fd Bln, B Bln 3/319 Bln all under comd 1RAR ^{for a} search and
destroy op in AO from 4-7 Feb.

3. EXEC

a. Gen Outline

Separate orders for ~~the~~ tel mov issued by B Coy.
US and RAA FO's will be deployed with RAR and
op on same radio frequency. ~~Set~~ BK 105 Bln
will be senior arty rep at gun posn.

b. Gun Areas

↳ within 300 m 986327 - both blys.

c. Allocation of FOs

A Coy : OP 1 (LT JANSEN)

B Coy : FO from B/3/319

C Coy : FO " "
(later joined by OP2 ex-leave)

D Coy : OP 3.

LO : 3/319 Bn FDC. Also used as
reserve Air OP

Air OP : FO's provided from ~~the~~ 3/319 Bn
(incl 161 Fd Bln).

d. Zones of Fire

(1) CA : 5800 yds

(2) ~~Target~~ Zones :

(a) Pri 5000 - 1000 yds

(b) Sec 6400 yds shooting

(3) LTSDT : Minimum rge HA

e. TTBR

040830 H (to be confirmed)

4. ADM & LOG

By Verbally by BK

5. COMD & SIG

a. Joe BC's Tac HQ and RAR Bu HQ

Refer trace issued. Bu HQ will be moving behind A Coy.

b. Signs

(1) Radio

(a) Callwords and call signs: Ref 801's issued 1 Feb. Note that ~~both~~ ^{105 Fd Bn} is adopting US call signs but NOT US Voice Procedure except when working to US stations.

(b) Eqp't allocation: SOP except LO who will use C45 ~~for~~.

(c) Nets:

Both blys will monitor FDS and Bde FCN 24 hours/day. Fire missions may be passed on both nets if either is too busy.

105 Bn CP will be control station on FDS and WIRED SKIPPER 63 on FCN.

(d) Radio Relay

(C/S 9)
Air OP1 is to be prepared to act as radio relay and will monitor FDS unless otherwise directed.

Blaj

P.N.O. TEDDER.
Be 105 Fd Bn RAA.

(2) Line

~~Line party will assist B Coy by~~
Bty subd will become Fire Sp Base subd for duration of op and ~~the~~ R1 party is to be prepared to lay line to all sub-units ~~except~~ B/3/319 Btn.

(a) Pri 1 : ~~to~~ FO line between
105 Btn CP and B/3/319 Btn ^{laid} FDC_A by
B Btn

(b) Pri 2 : Adm lines to
B Coy, E/17, PWLH, 105 BCP, BK,
B/3/319 Btn subd (laid by ~~B/3/319~~), and
other internal lines.

~~(c) Pri 3 : lateral lines to B/3/319~~

c. ^{Air} ~~to~~ Clearance for Tgts

(1) ~~to~~ ~~will be~~ 105 Btn
~~105 Btn~~
C/S 13 (~~to 105 Btn at FDC~~) will provide
air clearance. AGS system to be used.

(2) In the event of failure of ^{to C/S 13} ~~communications~~ Air OP
will give visual clearance.

(3) With no ~~any~~ Air OP, ~~FO's and clearance~~
~~with~~ firing will be controlled by FO's
and Nos 1.

d. ~~to~~ Clearance with respect for ground Forces

(1) ~~to~~ ~~status~~ of FO's : SOP
FO's all to

(2) FO's ~~will~~ ^{must} clear with adjacent RAR
sub-units if the tgt may endanger
friendly forces.

OPLAN VILLAGE LIBERATOR

ENCLOSURE

7

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7
RAA
Copy No
Hq 173d Abn Bde (Sep)
BIEN HOA, RVN
181400H Jan 66

OPLAN VILLAGE LIBERATOR

A. SITUATION:

1. One of the tactics most often used by the Viet Cong in RVN is the infiltration of Vietnamese villages with a handful of hard core Communists and the gradual conversion of the village to a Viet Cong Stronghold. In many cases the villagers never know what is happening until it is too late. In other cases the villagers simply do not care or if they do, they know that as a result of resistance the Viet Cong will bring certain death. This plan has been devised in an effort to assure that the 173d Abn Bde (Sep) can move a force immediately to assist Vietnamese villages in throwing off the yoke of Communism.

2. ASSUMPTIONS:

- a. 173d Abn Bde (Sep) has received information indicating that "X" village is occupied by Viet Cong forces or is Viet Cong controlled.
- b. Competent authority has requested or directed that the 173d kill or capture Viet Cong forces in the village and assist in restoration of the lawful government.
- c. The village lies within the 173d current approved TAOR (In this case B is not required.)

3. ACTIONS: Upon determination that a village is to be entered the following actions will be taken immediately:

a. Alert 1/503, 2/503 or 1/RAR to place TF Liberator on stand-by for employment. This Task Force will consist of one (1) rifle company with one (1) Artillery Forward Observer and one (1) 81mm mortar accompanying. The TF will have two (2) PRC-25 radios and one (1) RC 292 antenna to assure entry into the Bde and Bn Command Nets. One (1) days rations and water will be taken. A one (1) company reaction force will also be alerted by the Bn furnishing TF Liberator.

b. Alert all supporting forces to be prepared to assist TF Liberator. This will include:

- (1) Artillery-Support the operation from base position if possible. Be prepared to displace elements to forward firing positions on order.
- (2) US Air Force-Furnish Airborne FAC and TAC Air on order.
- (3) A Company, 82d Aviation Bn-Furnish fifteen (15) slicks on order to move TF Liberator to vicinity of "X" village. Furnish one (1) slick to TF Commander for aerial reconnaissance if time permits.
- (4) Initiate immediate coordination to arrange for local civil authorities, ARVN Forces, or popular forces to assist in search of "X" village.
- (5) Alert S5 section to be prepared to execute Airborne loudspeaker mission over the target area on order.
- (6) Initiate action necessary to assure that Airborne Radio Relay and Aerial Observer are on station when necessary.

c. When possible a meeting will be conducted at Bde S3 for final planning and coordination. Aerial Reconnaissance will also be conducted when time permits. Based on all information available the plan will be finalized to include:

- (1) Time of execution and estimated duration.
- (2) Pick up point and landing zones to be used.
- (3) Schedule of preparatory fires, if used.
- (4) Plans for re-supply if needed.
- (5) Plan for extraction of VCC and friendly force at termination of operation.

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B. EXECUTION:

After final coordination and at the time directed by the Commanding General Only, the Task Force will move by heliborne assault to "X" village. First priority after the assault will be to block off all avenues of escape from the village. After blocking forces are in place, the Airborne loudspeaker system will be used to inform the villagers that they are surrounded and to inform them of actions to be taken to prevent loss of innocent people's lives. Once sufficient time has been allowed for villagers to accomplish the actions directed, the search party will move into the village. When possible, Vietnamese forces will be used to search villages.

During the conduct of the operation hourly situation reports will be given to Bde S3 over the Bde Command Net FPM. Current SOI will be in effect. Points of Origin will be arranged prior to each operation.

After the village has been searched, all VCC and suspects will be turned over to local authorities or will be evacuated back to Bde VCCCP. At this time Civil Affairs personnel and local authorities will conduct any planned actions. When all actions have been completed, TF Liberator will be extracted and returned to Base positions.

Acknowledge:

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Brig Gen

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