

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

**Artillery units**

**Item number: 3/6/18**

**Item: 1 Field Regiment**

**[1 Fd Regt RAA]**

**Narrative**

**[1-30 Sep 1969]**

COVERING LETTER

Reference No. R707-1-1

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)

*John Cant*  
W/LT. COL  
COMD 1 FD REGT RAA

Appointment

(OC Unit or senior staff officer)

*Recd  
26/9/69*

**SECRET**

ORIGINAL }  
~~DUPLICATE~~

Strike out where  
not applicable

# COMMANDERS DIARY

OF

Unit or Formation 1 FD REGT RAA

From 1 SEP 69

To 30 SEP 69

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	.....
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- † NIL
- † RETAINED
- † Despatched to

on.....

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

LVL 3

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

EVENTS

as well as map references), establishment, equipment

and orders given.

the day's fighting, including company movements.

Commander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

of essential importance.

of officers, men and equipment.

equipment captured.

employed in the time not accounted for. The type of

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

of 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.

This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF - C 2119 (Adapted).

# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR

SEP 69

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION/.....1 FD REGT RAA

COMMANDING OFFICER

Lt COL BECK

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
PHOUC TUY/BIEN HOA	01	NOTE	1 ATF continued operation TOAN THANG III in the 1 ATF TAOR. 9 RAR supported by 161 Fd Bty RNZA commenced reconnaissance operations in AO BURR (Centre of Mass YS 6668) with FSPB WELLS located at YS 6569. 6 RAR supported by 101 Fd Bty continued operations in AO STUART (Centre of Mass YS 3084) with FSPB DIGGERS REST located at YS 2787. 5 RAR and 105 Fd Bty remained in 1 ATF base 2/52 ARVN continued operations in AO FISH (Centre of Mass YS 5665 and AO PERCH (Centre of Mass YS 6865) with FSPB BATON located at YS 5561 and a mortar baseplate located at YS 6760.	
		0900	The DRA left Nui Dat by Caribou aircraft for Vung Tau after his annual visit to the regt. He will stay overnight in Vung Tau and then visit Long Binh on the 2 Sep 69 before returning to Australia.	
		1027	The section of 161 Fd Bty at FSPB SERLE moved to FSPB WELLS as part of the 9 RAR deployment into AO BURR. The battery deployed by road escorted by APCs from B Sqn 3 Cav Regt.	
		1230	The section of 161 Fd Bty located at FSPB JANET moved to join the rest of the battery at FSPB WELLS.	
		1330	The 175mm guns at Xuan Loc were used in support of 1 ATF to engage a bunker system at YS 658933. They were adjusted by an Air OP. Several rounds fell on the target. Resulting in 2 bunkers being destroyed.	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION/..... 1 FD REGT RAA

MONTH AND YEAR..... SEP 69

REFERENCE MAP.....

COMMANDING OFFICER LT COL BECK

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
		1352	161 Fd Bty reported ready on Battery Grid at FSPB WELLS	
PHOUC TUY	02	NOTE	An extremely quiet day throughout the 1 ATF TAOR. There were no contacts.	
BIEN HOA		1400	The Battery Commander of 101 Fd Bty, Maj J F Bertram, carried out a liaison visit to BEARCAT (YT 1600) to co-ordinate some of the aspects of Artillery firing from FSPB controlled by BEARCAT as they affect 6 RAR operations in AO STUART.	
		1430	A liaison team from the 40mm Dusters from 5/2 (US) Arty Bn visited Nui Dat to co-ordinate the details of the deployment of a section (2) of these Dusters to Nui Dat to support 1 ATF. At this stage it is intended that they will deploy on 5 Sep 69 to support 1 ATF for an indefinite period.	
PHOUC TUY	03	NOTE	Light contacts only occurred within the 1 ATF TAOR.	
BIEN HOA		1400	101 Fd Bty fired in support of 1 Pl 6 RAR who contacted four VC at YS 278 822. Results are unknown.	
BIEN HOA		1430	11 Pl 6 RAR located a camp at YS 251848 which contained the bodies of two VC killed by H & I fire from 101 Fd Bty on the night 2/3 Sep 69. Results 2 KBarty	
		1600	Good results were obtained from shooting done by B Bty 2/35 throughout the day. The shooting was observed by pilots from 161 Recce Flt.	

This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF-C 2119 (Adapted).

# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR

SEP 69

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 FD REGT RAA

COMMANDING OFFICER LT COL BECK

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			...Results: 4 Bunkers destroyed, 3 Bunkers damaged, tunnels and trenches damaged.	
PHOUC TUY	04	0800	Following the success of the shooting done by B Bty 2/35 (US) Arty adjusted by the pilots of 161 Recce Flt on 3 Sep 69 Lt Col Beck informed the OC 161 Reece Flt and the OC of the US Forward Air Controller Detachment (JADE) attached to 1 ATF that their pilots should take every opportunity to use B Bty to engage targets.	
		0900	B Bty 2/35 (US) Arty engaged a bunker system at YS 532747 and another at YS 405750. Results: 4 bunkers destroyed, 1 bunker damaged, 2 tunnel entrances destroyed, 10 metres of tunnel damaged.	
BIEN HOA		1400	Air Intelligence located an occupied base camp at YS 365873 which was engaged by 101 Fd Bty and the US Artillery at BLACKHORSE YS 4497. Results are unknown.	
		2100	The US Artillery at BLACKHORSE again supported 1 ATF when they fired in support of elements of B Sqn 1 Armd Regt who contacted 15 to 20 VC at YS 480883. Results are unknown.	
		2145	105 Fd Bty and B Bty 2/35 (US) Arty fired counter mortar/counter rocket fire as pre-emptive fire in support of the Van Kiep Training Centre BARRIA	

1 B P Coy-275/65-55m

This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF-C 2119 (Adapted).

# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION 1 FD REGT RAA

MONTH AND YEAR SEP 69

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER LT COL BECK

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
PHOUC TUY	05	0015	B Coy 6 RAR and 3/43 ARVN Bn at the HORSESHOE reported that they had received incoming mortar fire at approximately 042345H. The suspected baseplate was engaged by mortar fire from the HORSESHOE (YS 4962) Results are unknown	
		0030	105 Fd Bty and B Bty 2/35 Arty engaged targets in the area of grid YS 3663 3763 as pre-emptive fire in support of Sector elements at Baria.	
		0800	The Crater Analysis Team moved to the HORSESHOE. Investigation of the craters located three baseplate positions (because of the uncertainty about the charge used) at YS 5056 6105, 5105 6065 and 51406020	
		1500	Targets engaged by B Bty 2/35 Arty in grid squares YS 4177, 4176 and 3565 resulted in 4 bunkers destroyed, 2 bunkers damaged and 20 metres of trench exposed.	
		1500	Naval Gunfire was again available to 1 ATF when the USS Walke armed with six 5" (38 cal) guns came on station at YS 6954, H&I grids were engaged in AO SHARK (Centre of Mass YS 6863)	
		1900	Support was provided to 1 ATF by US Arty at BLACKHORSE when they fired in support of elements of B Sqn 1 Armd Regt who sighted three VC at YS 479881 Results are unknown.	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m



This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF-C 2119 (Adapted).

# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)  
Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR SEP 69

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION/.....1..FD REGT RAA.....

COMMANDING OFFICER LT COL BECK

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
		2130	Support was provided to 1 ATF by RTAVF Artillery at FSPB GREY YS 2193 and US Artillery at Xuan Loc YT 4609 who engaged an intelligence target at YS 3188 which was thought to be the location of the headquarters of one of the battalions of 274 Regt (VC)	
PHOUC TUY/BIEN HOA	06	0800	Naval Gunfire was active in the area of the Long Hai mountains YS 4653	
		1025	101 Fd Bty fired in support of 12 Pl 6 RAR who contacted 6 enemy at YS 250878 Results are unknown.	
		1100	A section of B Bty 2/35 Arty left Nui Dat by road to FSPB WELLS (YS 6569) They were escorted by a section of APCs from B Sqn 3 Cav Regt A patrol from B Coy 6 RAR located a mortar baseplate position at YS 503613. It is suspected that it is the position from which the HORSESHOE was mortared on the night 4/5 Sep 69. It had a good view of the impact area and some attempt at camouflage had been made. (Crater Analysis located a possible baseplate at YS 5056 6105)	
BIEN HOA		1200	RTAVF Artillery at FSPB GREY (YS 2193) fired cut off fire in support of the 12 Pl 6 RAR contact. Results are unknown.	

# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR SEP 69

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION/ 1 FD REGT RAA

COMMANDING OFFICER LT COL BECK

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
		1530	Observed Naval Gunfire concluded into the Long Hai mountains, H&Is will be fired into the same area throughout the night. Results: 2 bunkers destroyed, 4 structures destroyed, 6 caves blocked, 1 concrete structure damaged, 7 secondary explosions.	
PHOUC TUY	07	1615 0300	The section of B Bty 2/35 Arty reported in action at FSPB WELLS Naval Gunfire engaged grid square YS 4854 in support of elements of 9 RAR and Sector who were involved in a contact with an estimated company sized group of enemy in the village of Lang Phouc Hai YS 5153. It was thought that a further group of enemy were in the area that was engaged by Naval Gunfire. Results are unknown.	
		1030	161 Fd Bty fired in support of 3 Pl 9 RAR who contacted 2 enemy at YS662-778. Results 1 Aust WIA , 1 VC WIA.	
		1050	Naval Gunfire was fired into the area of Ap Thuan Bien YS 6758 and Cape Tam Bo YS 7462. 10 targets were engaged. Results: 6 bunkers destroyed, 1 bridge destroyed, 3 secondary explosions, 4 bunkers damaged, 5 direct hits on caves, 2 wooden structures destroyed.	
		1700	The USS Walke departed station.	

This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF-C 2119 (Adapted).

# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR **SEP 69**

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION **1 FD REGT RAA**

COMMANDING OFFICER **Lt Col BECK**

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
PHUOC TUY	08	Note	Two 40MM "DUSTERS" from the 5/2 (US) Arty Bn arrived in NUI DAT where they came under Operational control of 1ATF for an indefinite time. They deployed into the area that is at present occupied by B Bty 2/35 (US) Arty Bn and this will their Base area whilst in NUI DAT. Lt HITE is in command of the Dusters.	
		1030	Notification was received that US and FWMAF elements would observe to some degree a truce that had been called by the VC to mark the death of HO CHI MINH, the President of Nth Vietnam. A direction was received from II Field Force Artillery LONG BINH to the effect that whilst there was no restriction on the firing of contact or illumination missions, or on the adjustment of defensive firetasks, there was to be no firing of harassing and interdiction fire nor of intelligence targets unless these targets posed a direct threat to troops or installations. This truce arrangement will be in effect until 11 Sep	

This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF-C 2119 (Adapted).

# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR SEP 69

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 FD REGT RAA

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col BECK

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
PHUOC TUY	09	Note	The truce arrangements that came into force on the 8 Sep continued throughout the day	
		0900	The searchlight deployed by road from NUI DAT to the HORSESHOE where it will be used to support operations in and around the area of DAT DO.	
		1000	The Section of B Bty 2/35 (US) Arty that had been deployed at XUYEN MOC returned by road to NUI DAT escorted by a section of Personnel Carriers from B sqn 3 Cav Regt and an Engineer Mini Team from 1 Fd Sqn RAE	
		1500	Because of problems that could arise in a combined operation by elements of 1ATF, 199 Light Infantry Brigade and RTAVF Forces in the Area of YS3393 it was decided that a Liaison Officer should be deployed at BEARCAT whilst the operation was in progress. Maj L A Thomson, BC 105 Fd Bty, is to be the LO	
BIEN HOA		1607	101 Fd Bty fired in support of 11 Pl 6 RAR who contacted an unknown number of enemy at YS274890. Results 5 Aust WIA, enemy casualties unknown	
BIEN HOA		1610	RTAVF Artillery at FSB GREY fired in support of the 11 Pl 6 RAR contact at YS274890	
BIEN HOA		1640	101 Fd Bty fired in support of 2 Pl 6 RAR who contacted two enemy in a Bunker system at YS296799. Results 1 VC KIA, 1 PW (WIA)	

1 B P Coy-275/65-55m

This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF-C 2119 (Adapted).

# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR SEP 69

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 FD REGT RAA

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col BECK

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
PHUOC TUY	10	Note	The truce arrangements imposed on 8 Sep prevailed throughout the day	
		1200	161 Fd Bty left FSB WELLS YS6569 to deploy by road to FSB WILTON YS5476 escorted by personnel carriers from B Sqn 3 Cav Regt and Infantry from 9 RAR. The move was part of a redeployment of 9 RAR into an extension of AO BURR, centre of Mass YS5674.	
		1530	Maj L A Thomson and a party of 4 signallers deployed to BEARCAT to act as a liaison team for the duration of the combined operation in the area of YS3391	
		1600	Approval was given by II Field Force Artillery for a Section of B Bty 2/35 Arty to deploy on 11 Sep to the Area of YS4571 to support 9 RAR Operations in the Area of YS5674 during the day and return to NUI DAT at 1600	
		1700	The move of a section of B Bty 2/3 5 Arty to the area of YS4571 was postponed for twenty four hours due to the fact that 9 RAR did not wish to use Artillery in their new AO on 11 Sep	
		1830	161 Fd Bty reported ready on Battery Grid at FSB WILTON 54257648	
		2400	The USS WALKE a 6 gun 5" (38 cal) destroyer, returned to station off the coast at YS4941, preparatory to firing H & I Missions into the area of the LONG HAI mountains (YS4456) from 110100H	

1 B P Coy-275/65-55m

This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF - C 2119 (Adapted).

# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR..... SEP 69

REFERENCE MAP.....

UNIT/FORMATION// 1 FD REGT RAA

COMMANDING OFFICER. LT COL BECK

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
PHOUC TUY	11	0100	Naval Gunfire fired by the USS WALKE became active in the area of the Long Hai mountains YS 4456	
BIEN HOA		1030	101 Fd Bty fired a landing zone preparation in support of the 199 Light Infantry Brigade (US) who inserted two companies into YS 3488 as part of the combined Thai, Aust and US operations in the area of YS 3393	
		1500	The projected move of B Bty 2/35 Arty to a FSPB in the area of YS 455717 was postponed until 13 Sep 69 due to the fact that 9 RAR do not wish to use artillery in their area of operations until some form of contact is made.	
		1530	Observed Naval Gunfire ended in the area of the Long Hai mountains. Results: 5 bunkers destroyed, 6 bunkers damaged, 4 secondary explosions 1 cave closed.	
		2200	The USS WALKE commenced firing an H & I programme into the area of the Southern Long Hai mountains	
PHOUC TUY	12	0800	Naval Gunfire was fired by the USS WALKE into the area of YS 7971, East of Xuyen Moc	
		1500	Lt Col Beck left Nui Dat for Saigon for a visit to Headquarters Australian Forces Vietnam.	
		1800	Naval Gunfire into the area of YS 7971 finished. Results: 9 secondary explosions, 10 bunkers destroyed, 9 wooden structures destroyed, 5 bunkers	

This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF - C 2119 (Adapted).

# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR

SEP 69

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 FD REGT RAA

COMMANDING OFFICER LT COL BECK

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			damaged and a number of hits on cultivated fields	
PHOUC TUY	13	0700	A section of B Bty 2/35 Arty moved from Nui Dat to establish a FSPB in the area of YS 455717. The move was designed to provide additional support to 9 RAR who were to conduct an attack on the suspected base camp of D445 VC Local Force Battalion in the area of YS 5774 during the day. The section was escorted by Personnel Carriers from B Sqn 3 Cav Regt and a platoon made up of Gunners from the Regiment.	
		0800	Naval Gunfire, fired by the USS WALKE, became active in the area of YS6760.	
		0830	The section of B Bty 2/35 Arty reported ready at FSPB KAREN YS 455717	
BIEN HOA		1510	101 Fd Bty fired in support of 12 Pl 6 RAR who contacted on enemy at YS 309929. Results are unknown.	
		1530	Naval Gunfire ended in the area of YS 6760. Four targets were fired. Results: 20 bunkers destroyed, 9 bunkers damaged, 1 secondary explosion.	
		1530	Lt Col Beck returned to Nui Dat from Saigon	
		1800	The section of B Bty 2/35 Arty returned to Nui Dat. Throughout the day they had engaged targets adjusted by the BC 161 Fd Bty RNZA (Maj Horsford) and also fired a fireplan into the basecamp area as did 161 Fd Bty. Results are unknown.	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF-C 2119 (Adapted).

# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION 1 FD REGT RAA

MONTH AND YEAR SEP 69

REFERENCE MAP .....

COMMANDING OFFICER LT COL BECK

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
PHOUC TUY	14	1020	Naval Gunfire fired by the rocket ship USS White River which came on station at YS 4948, became active into the area of the Southern Long Hai Mts (YS 4750)	
BIEN HOA		1310	101 Fd Bty fired a mission in conjunction with the 175mm guns from Xuan Loc (YT 4509) and the 8" guns from BLACKHORSE (YS 4497) on a target detected by Airborne Radar at YS 359898. Results are unknown	
		1500	Naval Gunfire into the area of the Long Hai Mts ended. Results: 9 Secondary explosions, 5 concrete structures damaged, 11 bunkers destroyed, 1 stone bunker damaged, 4 structures destroyed, 2 structures damaged, 13 caves closed and 6 caves damaged. 1178 5" HE rockets were fired.	
		1530	The liaison team deployed at BEARCAT returned to Nui Dat.	



This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF - C 2119 (Adapted).

# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR

SEP 69

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 FD REGT RAA

COMMANDING OFFICER LT COL BECK

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
PHOUIC TUY	15	0700	105 Fd Bty deployed from Nui Dat to FSPB BEN (YS 6012 7640). The deployment took place in two phases. Initially the battery moved from Nui Dat to Xuyen Moc (YS 6569 escorted by elements of B Sqn 3 Cav Regt and an Engineer 'Mini-team'. From Xuyen Moc the guns were deployed to the location of the FSPB by CH 47 Chinook Helicopters. The deployment of 105 Fd Bty was part of the deployment of 5 RAR and its supporting elements into AO MAX, Centre of Mass YS 6076	
		1050	161 Fd Bty fired in support of 4 pl 5 RAR who contacted two enemy at YS 579690 Results: 1 VC KIA.	
		1155	105 Fd Bty reported Section Ready on Battery Grid at FSPB BEN	
		1316	105 Fd Bty reported Ready on Battery Grid at FSPB BEN	
		1450	161 Fd Bty moved back to Nui Dat from FSPB WILTON escorted by elements of B Sqn 3 Cav Regt and Infantry from 9 RAR,	
		1600	161 Fd Bty reported Ready on Theatre Grid in Nui Dat.	
PHOUIC TUY	16	0824	105 Fd Bty fired in support of 7 Pl 5 RAR who contacted 5 enemy at YS 569690. Results: 2VC KIA, 1 VC KIA (Poss)	
BIEN HOA		0930	101 Fd Bty fired in support of 2 Pl W Coy 6 RAR who contacted an unknown sized group of enemy at YS 299876. Results: 1 VC KIA	

1 BP Coy-275/65-55m

This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF-C 2119 (Adapted).

# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR

SEP 69

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION// 1 FD REGT RAA

COMMANDING OFFICER

LT COL BECK

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
PHOUC TUY	1215	1215	105 Fd Bty fired in support of 7 Pl 5 RAR who contacted 3 enemy of a party of 14 at YS577665. Results: 1 VC KIA	
		1400	105 Fd Bty reported Ready on Theatre Orientation at FSPB BEN.	
		1630	105 Fd Bty reported Ready on Theatre Grid at FSPB BEN YS 60017646	
	17	0800	Naval Gunfire was again available to 1 ATF when the USS WALKE a six gun 5" (38 cal) Destroyer came on station at YS 7355 to engage targets in the area between the Song Rai River (YS 6059) and Cape Tam Bo (YS 7562)	
		1350	105 Fd Bty fired in support of 7 pl 5 RAR who contacted 2 enemy at YS 567 674 Results unknown.	
		1600	Naval Gunfire (observed) ended in the area between the Song Rai River and Cape Tam Bo. Results; 6 bunkers destroyed, 6 bunkers damaged, 4 caves closed and 3 camp area covered by fire.	
		1745	161 Fd Bty was allotted in Direct Support of the 1 ATF Ready Reaction Company which was deployed to YS 4677 to counter a suspected threat to the area of Binh Ba (YS 4474) and Duc Trung (YS 4574)	
BIEN HOA		1900	101 Fd Bty at FSPB DIGGERS REST (YS 2787) reported that there were White Phosphorous rounds bursting in the air close to their location. A check was carried out with RTAVF Artillery forces at BEARCAT (YS1600) which revealed	

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# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION/ 1 FD REGT RAA

MONTH AND YEAR SEP 69

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER LT COL

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			that the rounds were being fired by FSPB GREY (YS2194). The firing was stopped.	
PHOUC TUY		2000	The USS Walke commenced firing on H&I targets in the area between the Song Rai River and Cape Tam Bo.	
BIEN HOA		2330	W Coy 6 RAR reported that they had what appeared to be the cannisters from illuminating rounds impacting within 50m of their location. A check was carried out with RTAVF Artillery Forces at BEARCAT which revealed that FSPB GREY was firing the illumination mission which was causing the problem. The firing was stopped.	
PHOUC TUY	18	0900	Naval Gunfire fired by the USS Walke commenced in the area between the Song Rai River and Cape Tam Bo	
		1435	Naval Gunfire finished firing into the above area. Results: 6 bunkers destroyed, 3 structures destroyed.	
		2140	B Coy 6 RAR and 3/43 ARVN Bn at FSPB TACOMA (YS 452897) received 15 and 20 rounds of mortar fire. US Artillery elements at BLACKHORSE fired in support of FSPB TACOMA by engaging a suspected baseplate position at YS 450907. Results are unknown.	
		2210	H&I tasks fired by the USS Walke commenced into the area between the Song	

1 B P Coy-275/65-55m

This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF-C 2119 (Adapted).

# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR..... SEP 69

REFERENCE MAP.....

UNIT/FORMATION..... 1 FD REGT RAA

COMMANDING OFFICER..... LT COL BEK

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			Rai River and Cape Tam Bo.	
PHOU C TUY	19	0530	FSPB TACOMA again received mortar fire resulting in four ARVN WIA	
		0730	The Crater Analysis team from 131 Div Loc Bty moved by helicopter to FSPB TACOMA to investigate the mortarings of 182150H and 190530H	
BIEN HOA		0951	101 Fd Bty fired in support of 2 Pl W Coy 6 RAR who contacted one enemy at YS 297878. Results are unknown	
PHOU C TUY		1500	The results of the crater analysis from FSPB TACOMA were received. 82mm mortars were used in the attack of 182150H the baseplate being on a bearing of 2250 from the FSPB and a range of either 900 or 1700 depending on the charge used. In the attack of 190530H 60mm mortars were used, the baseplate being on a bearing of 3330 from the FSPB at a range of 600 metres.	
		1500	An FO party was deployed to Phu My (YS 2377) to co-ordinate Artillery support for the 2/52 (ARVN) Bn now operating in AO TRIDENT Centre of Mass YS 2578	
		1930	Naval Gunfire H&I targets fired by the USS Walke commenced in the area of the border between Phouc Tuy and Binh Tuy Provinces, Centre of Mass YS7870 Targets were to have been fired in this area throughout the day but bad weather conditions meant that the spotter aircraft was grounded.	

# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION 1 FD REGT RAA

MONTH AND YEAR SEP 69

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER LT COL BECK

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
		1930	A report was received from Phy My 5 (YS 2377) that they had received mortar fire. Counter mortar targets were fired from Phy My. Results are unknown.	
PHOUC TUY	20	1005	The results of the crater analysis from Phu My 5 indicated that the mortars fired on a bearing of 6360 mils. A range to the suspected baseplate could not be obtained because of the effect of rain on the craters overnight. An 82mm tailfin was found at YS 235772	
		1407	Naval Gunfire fired by the USS Walke became active in the area of the Phouc Tuy/Binh Tuy Province border (YS 7670).	
		1637	Observed Naval Gunfire ended in the above area. Results: 14 bunkers destroyed, 4 structures destroyed, 2 secondary explosions.	
		1905	105 Fd Bty fired in support of C Coy, 5 RAR who contacted a group of enemy in a bunker system at YS 565700. Results are unknown.	
		2130	Naval Gunfire H&I missions fired by the USS Walke commenced into the same area that had been engaged throughout the day.	
	21	0020	B Bty 2/35 Arty was allotted at Priority Call to 5 RAR for the period 21 0600H to 211200 to support C Coy 5 RAR in the attack on the bunker system located in the contact of 201905H, at YS 565700	
		0130	Naval Gunfire H&Is ended and the USS Walke went off station.	

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# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR

SEP 69

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION/ 1 FD REGT RAA

COMMANDING OFFICER LT COL BECK

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
		0750	105 Fd Bty fired in support of 9 Pl C Coy 5 RAR who contacted 2 enemy in the bunker system at YS 565700. Results are unknown.	
		0915	B Bty 2/35 Arty fired in support of C Coy 5 RAR, firing interdiction fire on suspected escape routes. The bunker system into which the enemy was thought to have withdrawn was also engaged, resulting in 2 bunkers destroyed, 2 bunkers uncovered.	
BIEN HOA		1845	Sensor devices deployed around FSPB DIGGERS REST detected movement in the area of YS 277878. The area was engaged by 81mm mortars from the FSPB and RTAVF Artillery also engaged the area with 155mm firing from FSPB GREY. Airstrikes were also were also targeted in the same area. Results are unknown. A sweep of the area will be conducted on the morning of 22 Sep.	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR SEP 69

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/~~FORMATION~~ 1 Fd Regt RAA

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col Beck

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	22	0800	BDA by ground troops carried out as a result of incident in DIGGERS REST area revealed signs of 30 plus enemy. Additional activities to EAST and four automatic weapons positions suggest that enemy were much stronger and possessed heavy weapons.	
		0830	A section of 105 Fd Bty RAA was deployed at FSPB EVA YS 608813 in support of B Coy 5 RAR	
		0840	B Bty 2/35 Arty fired on a bunker system at YS 410765. Results 2 bunkers damaged, ammunition bunker exposed.	
		<sup>330</sup> 1330	The section of 105 Fd Bty at FSPB EVA fired in support of B Coy 5 RAR in contact at YS 546857. Results unknown	
		1630	A LO from 101 Fd Bty, 2Lt Fentiman with two signallers deployed to BEARCAT as a Liaison Team for the combined operation at YS 3391 until 30 Sep 69.	
	23	0800	USS Whiteriver - Landing ship mortar/rocket - came on station and engaged 7 targets and expended 1056 rounds of 5 inch rocket ammunition. Targets engaged were in the Long Hai Mts with the following results : 3 caves closed 7 bunkers damaged, 7 bunkers destroyed, 10 secondary explosions, 2 base camps neutralized, 1 fortified position neutralized.	

# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/~~FORMATION~~/ 1 Fd Regt RAA

MONTH AND YEAR Sep 69

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col Beck

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	23	1615	At YS 267668 a vehicle of 1 Fd Regt RAA travelling in a convoy on QL 15 was engaged by a B40 round. As a results of shrapnel and the vehicle running off the road two of the occupants of the vehicle 2Lt H W Fewings and Gnr B J Stokes were wounded	
		1717	105 Fd Bty fired in support of B Coy 5 RAR in contact in bunker system at YS 536581. Results unknown.	
	24	0914	105 Fd Bty fired in support of B Coy 5 RAR who contacted 6-8 enemy at YS 529861. Results 2 en KIA (BC) 2 WIA (blood trails and drag marks) 1XAK 47 7 x AK 47 magazines, 148 AK 47 rounds CIA	
		0920	Section of 105 Fd Bty deployed to FSPB COLLEEN YS 598818	
		1233	105 Fd Bty - section at COLLEEN - fired in support of B Coy 5 RAR at YS 524861. Enemy movement was detected. Results unknown.	
	25	0955	101 Fd Bty fired in support of 2 Pl V Coy 6 RAR who contacted 12 enemy at YS 337852. Results 4 en KIA (BC) 2 AK 47, 4 packs, 100 lbs rice, NVA Webbing and 350 rounds AK 47 ammunition CIA	
		1143	101 Fd Bty fired in support of B Coy 6 RAR who contacted 3 enemy at YS 244825. Results 3 en KIA (BC) two AK 50, one US compass CIA 2 Aust WIA were evacuated.	



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# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/~~FORMATION~~/ 1 Fd Regt RAA

MONTH AND YEAR Sep 69

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col Beck

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	25	1200	B 2/35 Arty fired on an enemy camp at YS 410778. Results 2 structures destroyed, 4 tunnels destroyed, 1 CP sized bunker destroyed, 1 bunker destroyed.	
		1600	105 Fd Bty fired in support of B Coy 5 RAR who contacted 4 enemy at YS 523857 with unknown results	
	26	0730	3 guns of B Bty 2/35 Arty deployed to Dun Thanh in general support of the Regiment. 12 air observed missions were fired	
		1404	101 Fd Bty fired in support of W Coy 6 RAR who contacted 1 enemy - then located an estimated enemy platoon in a bunker system at YS 231872. 1 NZ was WIA. An airstrike was called in and at 1720 hrs contact was re-established. 101 Fd Bty again fired in support. Another NZ was WIA. A LFT and 4 airstrikes engaged the area. Results 1 VC KBA	
		1420	101 Fd Bty fired in support of A Coy 6 RAR who engaged 1 VC at YS 271849. Results 1 AK 47 and 1 pack CIA	
	27	0900	A <del>TDS</del> 25 ground surveillance radar deployed to HORSESHOE under operational control 1 Fd Regt RAA	
		0925	B Bty 2/35 Arty engaged weapon pits sighted by Possum at YS 375714	
		1807	B Bty 2/35 Arty engaged smoke from possible enemy camp sites at YS 505 716	

1 BP Coy-275/65-55m in support of C Coy 5 RAR

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# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION/ 1 Fd Regt RAA

MONTH AND YEAR Sep 69

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col Beck

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	28	0730	3 guns of B 2/35 Arty deployed to Duc Thanh YS 4678 in general support of the regiment. Returned to Nui Dat at 1800 hrs. Four targets were engaged	
		0829	105 Fd Bty engaged suspected enemy movement in support of D Coy 5 RAR at YS 498851	
		1030	175mm from Xuan Loc fired a LZ preparation at YS 612962 in support of B Coy <sup>6RAR</sup> who were inserted into the area to carry out a search for a missing SAS member	
		1330	B 2/35 Arty firing from Duc Thanh YS 4678 engaged an enemy base camp at YS 410779 in response to a call for fire from Possum 14 BDA revealed three bunkers destroyed.  The USS Clarion River came on station SOUTH of the Long Hai Mts. Ten targets in the mountains were engaged, 1778 x 5" rockets were expended. Results 3 VC KIA 16 secondary explosions, 16 bunkers destroyed, 1 OP neutralized.	
	29	NOTE	There were no contacts throughout the 1 ATF TAOR today	
		0730	A section of B 2/35 Arty moved to the HORSESHOE YS 4962 in support of the combined D Coy 6 RAR - 3/52 ARVN operation.	
		1436	B 2/35 Arty directed by an air OP engaged an enemy bunker system at YS 561571. BDA results - 6 bunkers destroyed, 2 bunkers damaged, 4 bunkers	

1 B P Coy-275/65-55m

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# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/~~FORMATION~~ 1 Fd Regt RAA

MONTH AND YEAR Sep 69

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col Beck

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			exposed, 1 hut destroyed	
	29	1641	B 2/35 Arty directed by a Possum from 161 Recce Flt engaged and destroyed a sampan at YS 588577	
		0800-1600	USS Clarion River again fired into the Long Hais engaging nine targets with 1200 x 5" rockets. Results 9 bunkers destroyed, 9 bunkers damaged, 2 Wpn pits destroyed, 14 trails cut.	
		1650	2Lt Fentiman and his party who had been deployed as an LO at BEARCAT, returned to Nui Dat. It is not intended to replace him at this stage.	
		1930-2030	1 ATF conducted a practice alert in Nui Dat. 101 Fd Bty engaged 4 'close comfort' DFs B 2/35 Arty engaged 1 DF and the search light located at the HORSESHOE illuminated a number of targets.	
	30	0800	161 Fd Bty RNZA and 9 RAR replaced 101 Fd Bty and 6 RAR (ANZAC) in AO STUART 101 Fd Bty returned to Nui Dat.	
	30	1158	161 Fd Bty fired in support of elements of 6 RAR who contacted 6 enemy at YS 244843. Results two enemy KIA (BC) two AK 47, 3 RPG rounds, two claymores and a quantity of assorted grenades CIA	
		1525	B 2/35 Arty fired in support of D Coy 5 RAR who contacted 11 plus enemy at YS 523794. Husky Bravo engaged YS 516780 as a cut off mission.	

1 B P Coy-275/65-55m

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# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION// 1 Fd Regt RAA

MONTH AND YEAR Sep 69

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col Beck

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			105 Fd Bty engaged YS 537795 in support of the same contact. Results 2 en KIA (BC) two WIA (blood trails) 11 hammocks, 7 packs, documents, medicals supplies and instruments CIA. Later as a result of the artillery firing, a family of two adults and six children who had been farming illegally in the area rallied to sector authorities at Duc Thanh YS 4678	
		1600	Capt Wickenden and a party of four deployed to Xuan Loc (YT 4679) to commence duties as LO to 18 ARVN Division.	
		0800	USS Clarion River offshore the Long Hais fired 158 x 5" rockets into 5 targets. Results 1 bunker destroyed, 1 structure destroyed, 1 cave closed 1 secondary explosion. A misfire on board the ship caused no damage, though much consternation and brought firing to a close some hours earlier than had been anticipated	
			A total number of 13379 rounds of artillery ammunition was fired during the month of september 1969	