

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Medical units

Item number: 11/2/7

Item: 2 Field Ambulance

Narrative

[1-30 Sep 1966]

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

potential importance. 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 given. Documents issued and received, routine returns, etc. All documents and the time of receipt or despatch is to be given.

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

(continued on back cover)

COMBAT DIARIES DISPOSAL

13. **Original Commander's Diary.** This is to be forwarded monthly, unless otherwise ordered, by 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.

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR SEPTEMBER 66

REFERENCE MAP XA BINH BA 6442 IV

UNIT/FORMATION 2ND FIELD AMBULANCE

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col W.O. RODGERS

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
VUNG TAU	1	0730	<p>Lt Col RODGERS having previously discussed the matter with Comd AFV and staff handed Maj B.W. FOX a letter which was prepared after these discussions. The letter informed Maj FOX that although his work as a surgeon was most satisfactory his presence in the unit was detrimental to the other officers he worked with on the medical and surgical aspects of ^{the} unit's oper function. Maj FOX departed VUNG TAU for SAIGON 1530 hrs.</p> <p>RAP treatments 35</p> <p>WARD admissions 6; discharged 2; transfer out 36 EVAC 1; total 65</p> <p>36 EVAC - 37 patients.</p>	
	2		<p>RAP treatments 38</p> <p>WARD - admissions 6; discharged 3; total 68.</p> <p>36 EVAC - 39 patients</p>	
	3	1130	<p>Wounded VC arrived from IATF evacuated ARVN mil hosp for surgery. Condition very serious died approx 1600 hrs - GSW both arms and neck.</p> <p>RAP treatments 36</p> <p>WARD - admissions 3; discharged 6; total 65.</p> <p>36 EVAC - 37 patients</p>	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION 2ND FIELD AMBULANCE

MONTH AND YEAR SEP 66

REFERENCE MAP XA BINH BA

COMMANDING OFFICER LT COL W.O. RODGERS

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
VUNG TAU	4	1900	Suspected VC wounded and evacuated from IATF arrived by RAAF helicopter	
		2000	Operation 2 Fd Amb GSW lower (L) leg; (R) arm - leg amputated. RAP patients 25 WARD - admissions 8; discharged 11; total 62 36 EVAC patients 38	
	5	1300	RAAF MEDEVAC 31 incl 2 RAAF patients - largest number medevac to date - New 151 RAP patients 41 WARD - admissions 5; discharged 10; total 57 36 EVAC patients 27	incl { 5 RAAF 3 NZ
	6	0645	CO departed on heli arranged by 161 Recce Flt for HQ AFV. Request by Cof S.	
		0730	2IC Maj D.A. CHAMBERLAIN departed for 5 days Rand R BANGKOK.	
		1400	CO rang Maj A to say he would accompany DAAMG HQ AFV on his Rand R to SINGAPORE departing SAIGON 7 SEP. Maj M.T. SHOSS appointed Adm Comd until return of Maj CHAMBERLAIN RAP patients 49 WARD - admissions 7; discharged 12; transfer OUT 36 EVAC 1; total 63 36 EVAC patients 25	
	7		RAP treatments 70	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR Sep 66

REFERENCE MAP XA BINH BA.

UNIT/FORMATION 2ND FIELD AMBULANCE

COMMANDING OFFICER LT COL W. O. RODGERS

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	7 (cont'd)		WARD - admissions 5; discharged 2; total 66 36 EVAC patients 24	
	8		RAP treatments 36 WARD - admissions 3; discharged nil; total 69 36 EVAC patients 23.	
		1100	CGS Lt GEN T.J. DALY accompanied by COMD AFV and COMD IARSG visited 2 Fd Amb	
	9		RAP treatments 42 WARD - admitted 4; discharged 9; total 64. 36 EVAC patients 22.	
	10		RAP treatments 40 WARD - admissions nil; discharged 3; total 61 36 EVAC patients 22.	
		1100	CGS NZ ARMY Maj GEN. MCKINNON accompanied by senior NZ officers FARELF and SAIGON visited 2 Fd Amb.	
	11		RAP treatments 15 WARD - admissions 3; discharged 6; total 58 36 EVAC patients 22.	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR Sep 66

REFERENCE MAP XA BINH BA

UNIT/FORMATION 2ND FIELD AMBULANCE

COMMANDING OFFICER LT COL W.O. RODGERS

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	11 (Cont'd) 12	1800	<p>May D.A. CHAMBERLAIN returned from R and R and resumed Adm Comd.</p> <p>RAP treatments 23</p> <p>WARD - admissions 4 ; discharged 6 ; total 52.</p> <p>36 EVAC. 22 patients</p> <p>RAAF aeromedical again delayed 24 hours. Plane due VUNG TAU each Monday has been regularly delayed 24 hours due to weather and mechanical trouble and on one occasion condition of VUNG TAU airstrip. This only causes a nuisance to 2 Fd Amb and the patients but does not produce inschable problems.</p>	
	13		<p>RAP treatments 50</p> <p>WARD - admissions 7 ; discharged 11 transferred to 36 EVAC 2 ; total 48</p> <p>36 EVAC - 17 patients</p>	
		1200	<p>Aeromedical evacuation - 15 including 1 RAAF.</p>	
	#	0830	<p>Grading and filling of area for concrete floor of new wards commenced</p> <p>RAP treatments CO returned from SINGAPORE and resumed comd.</p> <p>Mr HUGHES (Melbourne surgeon) and Mr GROVES (Alfred Hospital team BIEN HOA) visited area to discuss with SMO the possibility of a civilian medical team being placed in VUNG TAU or BARIA. Both places visited with CO.</p>	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR Sept 66

REFERENCE MAP XA BINH BA

UNIT/FORMATION 2ND FIELD AMBULANCE

COMMANDING OFFICER LT Col W.O. RODGERS

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	14.		RAP treatments 49 WARD - admissions 12; discharged 4; total 56 36 EVAC patients 20	
	15		RAP treatments 45 WARD - admissions 4; discharged 3; total 57 36 EVAC patients 18	
		2100	ANSG Duty Officer warned all units that a report had been received that VC mortar fire was likely to be received. Unit warned and stood to until 2238 hrs. Picquets given instructions to report immediately any incidents.	
		2230	Vietnamese patient received from IATF 12 Sep - died. Severe GSW (L) leg with severe infection. Malaria developed with possible tetanus.	
	16	0930 1030	LT Col L. HARMAN CO 36 EVAC hosp asked if 36 EVAC could take patients from 2 Fd Amb because (a) 36 EVAC at present holds few patients and (b) our building program would probably be assisted. The matter would be considered. The CO was at IATF for the time of call. RAP treatments 35 WARD - admissions 9; discharged 4; total 62 36 EVAC - 18 patients	

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 66

REFERENCE MAP XA BINH BA

UNIT/FORMATION 2ND FIELD AMBULANCE

COMMANDING OFFICER LT COL W.O. RODGERS

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
VUNG TAU	17		RAP treatments 38 WARD - admissions 5; discharged 6; transfer OUT to 36 EVAC 6; total 55 36 EVAC patients 24.	
	18		RAP treatments 16 WARD - admissions 6; discharged 2; transfer OUT to 36 EVAC 1; total 58. 36 EVAC patients 25	
	19	1245	1200 984 Maj. R. F. GREGG arrived as replacement surgeon for Maj Fox who was dismissed by Co. RAP treatments 39 WARD - admissions 6; discharged 12; transfer OUT to 36 EVAC 3; total 49 36 EVAC patients 27 RAAF medevac/convier again this week delayed 24 hours.	
	20		RAP patients 50 WARD - admissions 5; discharged 5; total 49. 36 EVAC patients 27. RAAF medevac/convier not now to arrive VUNG TAU till 23 Sep.	
	21		RAP treatments 37 WARD - admissions 7; discharged 3; transfer OUT to 36 EVAC 3; total 50 36 EVAC patients 33	

1 B P Coy 275/65-55m

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR SEP 66

REFERENCE MAP XA BINH BA

UNIT/FORMATION 2ND FIELD AMBULANCE

COMMANDING OFFICER LT COL W.O. RODGERS

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
VUNG TAU	22		RAP treatments 42 plus 200 inoculations WARD - admissions 12; discharged 6; total 56 36 EVAC - 31 patients 1730 Maj T. R. KING MO 1 RNZIR stationed in MALAYSIA visited and stayed overnight after spending one day with IATF.	
	23.		RAP treatments 44 plus 15 inoculations. WARD - admissions 13; discharged 3; transferred to 36 EVAC 7 - total 64. 36 EVAC patients 33	
	24		The laying of the concrete and the erection of the Kingstand huts progressing satisfactorily. RAP treatments 44 WARD - admissions 5; discharged 13; transferred to 36 EVAC 10 - total 45 36 EVAC patients 39	
	25		RAP treatments 22 WARD - admissions 5; discharged 1; total 49 36 EVAC patients 39	
	26		RAP treatments 40 WARD - admitted 5; discharged 1; total 53 36 EVAC patients 37 One patient (MATT) evacuated to Aust on special RAAF flight to Singapore then civil aircraft.	

L 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 66

REFERENCE MAP XA BINH BA

UNIT/FORMATION 2ND FIELD AMBULANCE

COMMANDING OFFICER LT COL W.O. RODGERS

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
VUNG TAU	27		RAP treatments 38 WARD - admissions 10 ; discharged 11 ; total 52. 36 EVAC patients 35 To this date total direct admissions since 1 May 66 are 2 Fld Amb ADS - 887 36 EVAC Amb - 198	
	28		RAP treatments 41 WARD - admissions 14 ; discharged 16 ; ^{transferred} total 5 36 EVAC 1 ; total 49 36 EVAC 41	
	29		RAP treatments 32 WARD - admitted 10 ; discharged 9 ; total 50 36 EVAC patients 40	
	30		RAP patients 20 WARD - admissions 6 ; discharged NIL ; total 56 36 EVAC patients 31 Med vac RAAF C130-4 returned AUST.	