

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Medical units

Item number: 11/3/1

Item: 8 Field Ambulance

Narrative

[25 Apr - 31 May 1967]

COVERING LETTER

Reference No. B 707/2/1

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) [Signature]

Appointment ADJUTANT 8th FIELD AMBULANCE
(OC Unit or senior staff officer) CAPTAIN

Received & forwarded 21/6/67.

SECRET

ORIGINAL }
~~DUPLICATE~~ } Strike out where not applicable

COMMANDERS DIARY

OF

Unit or Formation 8th FIELD AMBULANCE

From 25 APR 67 To 31 MAY 67

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
- to
- to
- to
- to
- to
- to
- to
- to
- to
- to
- to
- to
- to

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

† NIL
† RETAINED
† Despatched to
on.....

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, they should be grouped as annexes starting at B.

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

ENTS

as well as map references), establishment, equipment
of orders given.
the day's fighting, including company movements.
Commander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

tential 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 issued and received, routine returns, etc. All
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)

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.

COMPILATION

6. Both original and duplicate copies are to consist of:

- Cover (AF C 2119) (Adapted).
- Index as shown on cover.
- Narrative (AF C 2118) (Adapted).
- Appendix as shown on the Index.

7. All details of the unit or formation (if a detail report is submitted, the date of the parent unit, which 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 commander is to be shown.

8. The annexes are to be assembled in the groups shown on the cover. If there are no annexes, an annex Nil, will be entered on the cover. If additional annexes are collected for a particular report, they are to be numbered in sequence as annexes during the period.

For units in form Annex "Z", the cover is to be prepared and despatched as follows.

INDEX

a. as well as (see references), establishment, equipment

b. units given
c. day's fighting, including company movements
d. other units with regard to equipment, losses, expenditure

General importance
e. officers, men and equipment
f. present captured
g. employed in the field not accounted for. The type of

and to give brief as much information as possible to the
units formed and received, parties returns, etc. All
and the time of arrival or departure is to be given.

is annexed, but need not give a précis of any of them.

(continued on back cover)

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

Revised Jun, 1965

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt. Col. R.H. MEYER

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
VUNG TAU	25 Apr 67	1100 Hrs	8 Field Ambulance commenced operating in South Vietnam, eleven months after being raised at Puckapunyal.	
	7 May 67	1700 Hrs	Four nursing Sisters arrived to commence duty with 8 Field Ambulance. Capt. Amy PITTENDREIGH, Lts Margret AHEARN, Terri ROCHE, Colleen MEALY.	
	18 May 67	1815 Hrs	First battle casualty admitted to ADS.	
	24 May 67	1500 Hrs	Visit by commander AFV Mai Gen VINCENT.	
			A total of 189 casualties were treated during the month of May.	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m