

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

**Artillery units**

**Item number: 3/7/17**

**Item: 4 Field Regiment**

**[4 Fd Regt RAA]**

**Narrative, Annexes**

**[1-31 Oct 1970]**







## 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 numbered as annexes starting at B.

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

### ITEMS

as well as map references), establishment, equipment

orders given.

the day's fighting, including company movements.

commander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

of great importance.

officers, men and equipment.

men captured.

employed in the time not accounted for. The type of

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

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.



# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR October 1970

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 4 Fd Regt RAA

COMMANDING OFFICER B.C. FORWARD

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			1 ATF continues OP CUNG CHUNG in 1 ATF TAOR.	
			4 Fd Regt (-) remains in NUI DAT : 106 Fd Bty has a section at HORSESHOE, section at NUI DAT ; 107 Fd Bty has a section at FSPB GAIL (YS2572), section at FSPB JILL (YS2976); 161 Fd Bty is loc at NUI DAT; A Bty 2/35 (US) Arty is loc at NUI DAT; 30 Inch searchlight is loc at NUI DAT.	
			USS WILTSIE is on station.	
			DETACHMENTS: CAPT McWILLIAM at II FFV Arty at LONG BINH; 2LT LANS at RTAVF HQ BEARCAT; 2LT LENARD at Sector HQ BARIA.	
	01		No contact missions were fired during the 24 hour period.	
			USS WILTSIE engaged H & I's in east of TAOR.	
	02		No contact missions were fired during the 24 hour period.	
			USS WILTSIE engaged H & I's in east of TAOR.	
	03		Sect 106 Fd Bty return to HORSESHOE, Also one gun to NDP BRIDGID (YS5154).	
			A Bty 7/8 (US) Arty (8 Inch) arrive HORSESHOE.	
			Sect 107 Fd Bty at FSPB GAIL engaged contact mission grid 272747.	
			USS WILTSIE off station.	
	04		Sect 107 Fd Bty mov from FSPB GAIL to FSPB LE LOI (YS4576).	
			No contact missions were fired during the 24 hour period.	



# COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION 4 Fd Regt RAA

MONTH AND YEAR October 1970

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER B.C. FORWARD

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	05		TPS 25 GSR arrives HORSESHOE for duration of approx 4 days.  No contact missions were fired during the 24 hour period.	
	06		ARVN 105MM at XUYEN MOC (YS6568) engaged contact mission grid 647658 in sp of RF contact.  4 guns of 161 Fd Bty mov from NUI DAT to XUYEN MOC (YS6568) for duration of approx 5 days.  Two additional gun crews also mov to provide base protection.  No contact missions were fired by 1 ATF Artillery during the 24 hour period.	
	07	2000	A Bty 2/35 (US) Arty mov to YS4467 for practice night deployment and return at 080135H.  No contact missions were fired during the 24 hour period.	
	08	0835	Sect 107 Fd Bty at FSPB JILL engaged contact mission grid 349769.  A Bty 2/35 (US) Arty engaged contact mission grid 386756.  USS WILTSIE on station and engaged H & I's to east of TAOR.	
		0940	Sect 107 Fd Bty at FSPB JILL engaged contact mission grid 338755.	
		1520	Sect 107 Fd Bty at FSPB JILL engaged contact mission grid 357742.  A Bty 2/35 (US) Arty engaged contact mission grid 370730.  USS WILTSIE engaged GR7662 on sighting of en on beach.	
	09	0130	106 Fd Bty fired illum in sp of contact GR398628 - Results 4 VC KIA - 1 VC WIA (PW).	
		1000	A Bty 2/35 (US) Arty engaged GR350692 on sighting by Possum VR A/C of 10 VC.	
		1120	Sect 107 Fd Bty at FSPB LE LOI engaged contact mission GR366814.	



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 October 1970

## REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION..... 4 Fd Regt RAA.....

COMMANDING OFFICER B.C. FORWARD

[illegible]

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m



This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF-C2119 (Adapted).

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

AF-C2118 (Adapted)  
Revised Apr. 1969

# COMMANDER'S DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION 4 Fd Regt RAA

MONTH and YEAR October 1970

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col B.C. FORWARD

Serial	Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or Information	Reference to annex letter and/or enclosure No.
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
		13	1530	161 Fd Bty mov from XUYEN MOC (YS6568) to NUI DAT.  No contact missions were fired during the 24 hour period.	
		14	0800	Sect 107 Fd Bty mov from FSPB LE LOI to NUI DAT.  161 Fd Bty mov from NUI DAT to FSPB BRUISER (YS6465).  ARVN 105MM at ONG TRINH (YS2668) now replaced with 2 X 155MM (TOWED).	
		15		161 Fd Bty fired illum in sp of contact GR673690.	
		15	0930	Sect 107 Fd Bty mov from FSPB JILL (YS2977) to FSPB GAIL (YS2572).  USS DAVIDSON on station and engaged tgts in area of NUI TAM BO (YS7262).  No contact msns were fired during the 24 hour period.	
		16		USS DAVIDSON engaged H&I's in east of TAOR.  No contact msns were fired during the 24 hour period.	
		17	0800	PL A/7/8 (8 INCH) from HORSESHOE to FSPB BRUISER (YS6465).  USS DAVIDSON engaged H&I's in east of TAOR.	
			2000	106 Fd Bty fired illum and HE in sp of RF contact north of LANG PHUOC HAI (YS5153).	
		18		USS DAVIDSON off station.  No contact msns were fired during the 24 hour period.	



# COMMANDER'S DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION 4 Fd Regt RAA

MONTH and YEAR October 1970

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col B.C. FORWARD

Serial	Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or Information	Reference to annex letter and/or enclosure No.
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
		18		2LT ANKER (161 Fd Bty) to LO RTAVF. 2LT LANS to NUI DAT.	
		19	1345	161 Fd Bty engaged GR6562 after report of VC sighting and after bushranger received ground fire.	
		20		No contact msns were fired during the 24 hour period.	
		21	0500	106 Fd Bty fired illum in sp of contact GR452574.	
			1200	A/2/35 (155MM) mov from NUI DAT to FSPB SCOBIE (YS6670). (inexplicably named after the Arty Tac Bdr Sig).	
			1400	161 Fd Bty and PL A/7/8 return from FSPB BRUISER to NUI DAT.	
		22	0800	161 Fd Bty mov from NUI DAT to FSPB LE LOI (YS4576) for day raid. Returned 1800 hrs.	
			1330	Sect 107 Fd Bty mov from NUI DAT to DUC THANH compound (YS4678). A/2/35 engaged GR764804 following contact by and extraction of SAS patrol.	
		23	0700	161 Fd Bty mov from NUI DAT to FSPB LE LOI (YS4576) for day raid. Returned 1500 hrs.	
			1200	Sect 107 Fd Bty mov from FSPB GAIL (YS2572) to FSPB HELEN (YS3176).	
			1630	Sect 107 Fd Bty mov from DUC THANH to NUI DAT.	
				No contact msns were fired during the 24 hour period.	



This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF-C2119 (Adapted).

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

AF - C2118 (Adapted)  
Revised Apr. 1969

## COMMANDER'S DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION 4 Fd Regt RAA

MONTH and YEAR October 1970

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col B.C. FORWARD

Serial	Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or Information	Reference to annex letter and/or enclosure No.
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
		24		Regt msn fired on GR352714. No contact msns were fired during the 24 hour period.	
		25		BC 161 Fd Bty withdraws FCC from 8 Bn RAR on their preparation for RTA. No contact msns were fired during the 24 hour period.	
		26	0800	Sect 107 Fd Bty mov from NUI DAT to FSPB LONGREACH (YS5276).	
			1300	PL A/7/8 mov from NUI DAT to HORSESHOE. No contact msns were fired during the 24 hour period.	
		27	0830	PL A/7/8 mov from HORSESHOE out of ATF TAOR to YS8196. Duty officer changes in Arty Tac. 1. CAPT CAMPBELL to BC 106 Fd Bty 9 Nov to replace MAJ D.J. GILROY (RTA for Staff College preparation). 2. CAPT HARRISON (161 Fd Bty) to Arty Tac until his RTNZ - approx Feb 71. 3. CAPT FORD, LTS ANDERSON, DUNN remain. No contact msns were fired during the 24 hour period.	
		28		Sound ranging base withdrawn permanently. USS BAUSELL on station and engaged H&I's in east of TAOR. No contact msns were fired during the 24 hour period.	



## COMMANDER'S DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION 4 Fd Regt RA

MONTH and YEAR October 1970

### REFERENCE MAP.

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col B.C. FORWARD

[illegible]



le: R723/2/8

4 Fd Regt RAA  
NUI DAT SVN

See Distribution List

4 Nov 70

MONTHLY SICK REPORT  
MONTH ENDING - OCT 70

	HQ	107	106	131	161	3CAV	17CONST	IFS	1A/REG
GASTROENTERITIS	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	5	1	Nil
OTHER INTESTINAL	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	4	4	Nil	3	1
EYE AND EAR	3	6	1	Nil	4	5	8	12	4
NOSE & THROAT	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	10	5	4	Nil
RESPIRATORY	2	1	Nil	Nil	1	2	1	9	1
SKIN	10	2	3	2	6	7	8	20	Nil
PUO	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
PSYCHIATRIC	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
SURGICAL	2	Nil	4	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
OTHER MEDICAL	Nil	1	2	Nil	Nil	3	3	23	11
INJURIES	5	1	2	1	Nil	9	13	17	4
TOTAL	35	11	12	4	17	42	43	80	21

RMO COMMENTS: The figures for this month show a pleasing reduction in the amount of intestinal disorders over the previous month.

*[Signature]*  
(I. J. ISAACS)  
Capt  
RMO

Distribution

1 ATF (for SMO)  
HQ AFV (for ADMS)  
CO  
2IC  
RMO  
HQ Bty  
106 Bty  
107 Bty  
Det 131 Div Loc Bty  
LAD  
3 Cav Regt  
1 Fd Sqn  
1 Armd Regt  
1 ARU  
17 Const  
Comd's Diary ✓  
File



CONFIDENTIAL

File: R1300/1/11

4 Fd Regt RAA  
NUI DAT SVN

See Distribution List

ARTILLERY AMMUNITION USAGE

Reference: A. AFV R1300/1/10 dated 3 Aug 69.

1. The usage of 105mm ammunition by 4 Fd Regt RAA for the month of OCTOBER is as follows:

Ser	Type of mission	HE	Smk Wbt	WP	Illum	Splintex	Smk Col
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
1	Calibration/Registration						
2	Observed Supporting Fire	1631		47	269		
3	Unobserved Supporting Fire	1106		8	23		
4	Harrasing Fire	5278					
5	Training	47		10			
6	Total 4 Fd Regt RAA	8062		65	292		
7	Used by 161 Fd Bty	2669		39	80		
8	Used by 4 Fd Regt RAA Less 161 Fd Bty	5393		26	212		

*Dr. B. C. FORWARD*  
(B. C. FORWARD)  
Lt Col  
CO

Distribution:

HQ AFV (2)  
HQ 1 ATF  
CG IIFV LBN RVN  
Arty Tac  
101 Fd Bty  
106 Fd Bty  
161 Fd Bty  
File  
Spare  
Commanders Diary (3)