

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Engineer units

Item number: 4/2/15

Item: 1 Field Squadron

Narrative

Operations log

annexes

[1-31 Aug 1966]

COVERING LETTER

Reference No.

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]*

Major

Appointment OC 1 Fd Sqn RAE
(OC Unit or senior staff officer)**SECRET**

ORIGINAL

~~DUPLICATE~~~~TRIPPLICATE~~Strike out where
not applicable**COMMANDERS DIARY**

OF

Unit or Formation 1st Field Squadron RAEFrom 1 August, 1966To 31 August, 1966

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~~ **Technical Report**
- * 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

1 to

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† NIL

† RETAINED

† Despatched to

on.....

* Only to be included during operations.

† Cross out whichever is not applicable.

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

ITEMS

es as well as map references), establishment, equipment

d orders given.

he day's fighting, including company movements.

nmander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

potential importance.

o officers, men and equipment.

pment captured.

employed in the time not accounted for. The type of

s and to save work as much information as possible is to
uments issued and received, routine returns, etc. All
l 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, 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)

Rev. 1 Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION 1 Fd Sqn RAE

MONTH AND YEAR August 1966

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj W W LENNON

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
NUI DAT	1 Aug		6 RAR Asslt Pioneer pln occupied a position in front of 3 Tp area. Completed installation of culvert EAST CANBERRA AVE. Tp officer returned from BIEN HOA, stores sit chaotic.	
NUI DAT	2 Aug		Visit by SORE 2 Maj BINNEY.	
NUI DAT	3 Aug		N.T.R.	
NUI DAT	4 Aug		OC assumed duties as TF Engineer - staff capacity. All men saw the visit & performance of the female exotic dancer from Aust. Visit for dinner of A Bty 2 Bn 36 Regt US Gunners. 5 Bn Band played for 1 FD SQN, ideal dinner music, very entertaining.	
NUI DAT	5 Aug		Visit by Maj MARKHAM (S 2) FF V2. Will accept monthly E in C Tech Report in lieu of weekly sit rep. OC met CGS US Army GEN JOHNSTON. Gd recce for track west of ROUTE 2. Recommend not satisfactory during wet.	

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)

Rev. Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION 1 Fd Sqn RAE

MONTH AND YEAR August 1966

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj W W LENNON

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
NUI DAT	6 Aug		Constructed prototype, company size, pit type incinerator.	
NUI DAT	7 Aug 66		Sqn Stand Down Day.	
NUI DAT	8 Aug		Scale A, conf of all unit reps. 8 Tp 17 Const Sqn moved into loc EAST of & in 3 Tp area. 2 Offr & 36 OR's proceeded to OP HOLSWORTHY.	
NUI DAT	9 Aug		Started const of airstrip at Canberra Ave NTH. OC went fwd to Op HOLSWORTHY & returned at 1715 hrs.	
NUI DAT	10 Aug		Tp Offr 3 Tp returned from Op HOLSWORTHY. Approval has been granted to increase beer ration to all troops.	
NUI DAT	11 Aug		On returning from laundry run from Baria at 1500 hrs, the VC launched a mortar attack about 200 yds from the main road. The attack was apparently launched at a SVN government compound. OC 21 Sp Tp, Recce Offr & Spr went fwd to Op HOLSWORTHY & returned at 1400 hrs.	

1 B P Coy-275/65-55m

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COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR August 1966

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 Fd Sqn RAE

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj W W LENNON

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
NUI DAT	12 Aug		Some minor repair required on Br NORTH of our loc. This was effected by 4 sappers from 1 Tp. PSP was also used. Too much rain has prevented much effective work to be done by 1 FD SQN over the past few days. As a result of visit by 55 AECS Det OC, it is proposed that Engr stores be brought fwd by LCU and that the forwarding of Engr stores should improve in the near future. Since arrival in theatre the shortage of spare parts for all plant & veh has seriously hampered the function of 1 FD SQN. Today only 4 of the 16 Tippers were functioning.	
NUI DAT	13 Aug		Rain from 1330 prevented plant work. LSM brought fwd a load of Engr stores to BARIA.	
NUI DAT	14 Aug		OC saw MO & advised MO that Sappers should not wear shirts because they cause heat rashes, due to the fact that they are working on hot machines, in other cases clothes get wet daily, this all causes rashes.	

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COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR August 1966

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 Fd Sqr RAE

COMMANDING OFFICER. Maj W W LENNON

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
NUI DAT	14 Aug		Comd directed that all ranks will wear shirts & long trousers through daylight hours. LSM brought forward approx 60 tons of stores to BARIA.	
NUI DAT	15 Aug		No rain before 1900 hrs allowed plant to work all afternoon. LSM brought forward 60 tons of Engr stores Good progress on 6 RAR main drain. Lcpl Cook CASEVAC to 36 EVAC, shot in the foot on Op HOLSWORTHY.	
NUI DAT	16 Aug		Fire in 21 Sp Tp Lines completely destroyed 1 - 12' x 14' tent with all personal gear. No mail forward today, this appears to have a morale effect on the troops. Maj BINNEY visited at 1815 hrs.	

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 August 1966

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 Fd Sqn RAE

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj W W LENNON

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
NUI DAT	17 Aug		At 0245 hrs 1 Fd Sqn commenced to receive MOR fire. MORS were reported to fall in all Tp areas with the exception of 6 Bn Asslt Pnr Tp, RAEME WKSP & HQ Tps. At 0250 hrs OC 1 Tp was reported as cas, clearance was given immediately to move Capt PAINE to Det 2 Camp Hosp. Further casualties Spr MORRIS, 8 Tp & Spr BICKLEY 21 Engr Sp Tp. Spr MORRIS had shoulder wound while Capt PAINE was very seriously injured, both were evac to 36 EVAC VUNG TAU. Spr BICKLEY remained in 2 Fd Amb Det. Mor fire ceased at 0305 hrs, first light count indicated that 1 FD SQN (Gp) took 19 x 82mm MORS. Little construction work was carried out today, most of the day was spent continuing const of unit defences. No mail forward today. Maj BINNEY departed at 1500 hrs, most impressed.	
NUI DAT	18 Aug		All day spent in improving defences, weapon pits to O H PROTECTION, C P & MAG Commenced & sand bagging of tents. Visit by OC 17 Const Sqn	

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 Sqn RAE

MONTH AND YEAR August 1966

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj W W LENNON

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
NUI DAT	18 Aug		1630 hrs Report of D Coy 6 RAR in contact with Coy (+) of VC. Casualties believed to be heavy; an attempt was made by B Coy to reinforce D Coy but A Coy (in APC) broke through another Coy of VC to relieve D Coy & inflict heavy cas on VC. 2045 hrs. Engr supplied 7 vehicles & 1 fork lift to effect resupply of 105mm Ammo to Arty. Today has been a dry day & regardless of this all Engrs, with the exception of some plant worked on defence improvement. 1 Tlr load of Engr stores brought fwd by LSM to BARIA. Also brought fwd extra piquets & sandbags.	
NUI DAT	19 Aug		Further reports of D Coy Contact indicate that 205 VC KIA, 17 Aust KIA & 20 WIA. WIA all evac to 36 EVAC HOSP & all in satisfactory condition. 1 FD SQN warned for undertaken tasks to bury VC bodies. The VC were predominantly N Vietnamese. Probably use airborne - Oliver or MASSEY FERG carried per CHINOOK. Warned for minefield clearing task at DUC TAN with view to recovery 105mm shells.	
NUI DAT	20 Aug		No rain overnight enabled work to be done in 6 Bn, 5 Bn, Services area.	

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 August 1966

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 Fd Sqn PAE

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj W W LENNON

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
NUI DAT	24 Aug		2IC, Adm Offr & LT LEATHERWOOD with 2 FE proceeded to DHUC THAN. They cleared lane through minefield & recovered 3 x 105mm para drops of ammo. One mine was encountered and destroyed in situ. Visit by Col GRACE & 4 Offrs(FFV2). Toured area with OC. OC indicated a requirement for M8A1 & T17 also Bailey Bridging, 80 ft of which will be forwarded ASP.	
NUI DAT	25 Aug		1630. Received ex Baria hard & LSM CLIVE STEEL 80' of M3 Bridging. OC visited 1 Div US & received details,papers on use of CS as Barrier and Incendiary, inflammable protective devices, Received 80 ft DS Bailey from FFV2 via LSM. Arrived about 1630 on 11 dump trucks.	
NUI DAT	26 Aug		Installed 40 ft SS Bailey Bridge Ap An Phu - some difficulty with restricted work site and heavy rain. Bridge was built over expedient bridge in case it ever has to be removed for use in contingency elsewhere. Talked to Maj Mubush about M79 and M16 requirements - probably get 30 M16 and 18 M79's.	

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/FORMATION¹ Fd Sqn RAE

MONTH AND YEAR August 1966

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj W W LENNON

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
NUI DAT	27 Aug		Commenced const of Bailey Bridge (Cl 24) at AP AN PHU. Br completed at 1600 hrs, approaches difficult for small veh. Rain most of the day prevented any significant plant work from 1400 hrs.	
NUI DAT	28 Aug		Sqn Stand down day. Br approaches at AP AN PHU completed as well as possible without the use of PSP. Heavy rain during latter part of afternoon. OLIVER DOZER arrived fwd. The machine lacked parts & had been mishandled in transit.	
NUI DAT	29 Aug		N T R.	
NUI DAT	30 Aug		Recce Offr & Lt LEATHERWOOD carried out initial inquiries at Sector HQ on emplacement of minefield at PHU MY. Op DARLINGHURST 5 RAR located tunnels & 1 FD SQN moved out. 3 demo teams, 1 mighty might team, Sgt, 1 Pl Comd & OC for destruction of tunnels. PSP layed on approaches to AP AN PHU Bridge. Lowered 150 ft of 36" culvert into airfield sight.	

ANNEX A to
COMMANDER'S DIARY for AUG 66

1 FD SQN RAE OPS LOG

DATE/TIME
FROM 010400 TO

Aug 66

SHEET NO 27

SERIAL	DATE TIME	FROM	TO	ORIG NO	MESSAGE OR DETAIL	ACTION	COMPLETED
173	7 010400H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	511/8/66	SITREP No 1 N.T.R.		
174	011115H	6 RAR	1 Fd Sqn		6 RAR will be sending out a Pl size patrol between 1500 & 1800 hrs 1 Aug. Mvt of patrol will be N - S approx 500 metres out. Patrol move out thru A Coy and rtn D Coy. Ptl will be probably be seen by 1 Fd Sqn, closest anticipate GR 440660 at 1700 hrs.	Sub units notified.	
175.	012000H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	517/8/66	SITREP No 5. Works progress report: Culvert Canberra Ave East 6 RAR 5%. Wiring W Rte 2 30%. Access track US Guns 90%. Garbage tip 30%. Ingleburn Ave 90%. 5 RAR Ech drainage 100%. 48" culvert Canberra Ave E East 95%. Access rd NUI DAT 50%. 1 Fd Sqn scale A food prep rooms and sullage water drainage 60%. 6 RAR Pnr Pl moved into sqn def perimeter.		
176.	012245H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	Tele	16427 Spr FOGARTY received burns. Request permission to move him to hosp. TOC will warn adjacent units of movement. 2 Fd Amb warned for reception.		
177.	020030H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	519/8/66	NOTICAS.16427 Spr E J FOGARTY, 1 Fd Sqn, Non battle cas. 2nd degree burns. Present loc 2 Fd Amb Fwd, evac to VUNG TAU AM 2 Aug. NOK Mother, Margaret Rose FOGARTY, 8A grove st, CAIRNS WLD. Member recd burns whilst asleep in bed when clothing ignited.		
178.	020030H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP. N.T.R.		
179.	020800H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP. N.T.R.		
180.	020830H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	521/8/66	For SORE2 AFV. Owing to def caused by med det to VUNG TAU and other reasons, request RTU Cpl MURRAY. Spr WRIGHT NOT required this loc.		

1 FD SQN RAE OPS LOG

DATE/TIME

FROM 021200H TO

Aug 66

SHEET NO 28

SERIAL	DATE TIME	FROM	TO	ORIG NO	MESSAGE OR DETAIL	ACTION	COMPLETED
181.	021200H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
182.	022000H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP. N.T.R.		
183.	022400H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP. N.T.R.		
184.	030400H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP. N.T.R.		
085	030950H	1 Fd Sqn	17 Const		Request change TD 15 with PCU for one with ripper. 17 will arrange shipping.		
186.	030955H	1 ATF	1 Fd Sqn		Protection for wiring party inadvertently directed to dozer clearing West of Rte 2. Advised APC Sqn who will fix.	1 Tp advised.	
187.	032000H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	527/8/66	Sitrep: Works: TF Defence Wire 40%. Culvert 6 RAR 8%. Dozer slot garbage tip 75%. Drainage Canberra Ave South 85%. Drainage ring rd Svcs area 75%.		
0324	032400H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	528/8/66	Sitrep: N.T.R.		
189	042000H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	535/8/66	Sitrep: Works: TF Def Wiring 45%. Concrete culverting 6 RAR 12%. Second dozer slot garbage pit 30%. Resurfacing Canberra Ave Sth 40% Draining Canberra Ave complete. Clearing West of Rte 2 42%. Culvert Airstrip 3%. Wiring West of Rte 2 20%. Culvert Canberra Ave North of 1 & 3 Tp positions 70%.		
190.	042400H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	537/8/66	Sitrep: N.T.R.		
191.	050800H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	538/8/66	SITREP: N.T.R.		
192.	051200H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
193.	051940	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		Request for escort for Tipper convoy at 1500hrs 6 Aug 66.	Request granted.	

1 PD SQN RAE OPS LOG

DATE/TIME

FROM 052025H TO

Aug 66

SHEET NO

29

SERIAL	DATE TIME	FROM	TO	ORIG NO	MESSAGE OR DETAIL	ACTION	COMPLETED
194.	052025H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	546/8/66	MAINTDEM Priority 1. Parts required for Rock Crusher. Conveyor belting with $\frac{1}{8}$ " and $\frac{1}{16}$ " covers 32 oz duck grade B 80ft long-part No. G and I qty 1. Set Dunlop Duraflex fasteners part No G and I qty six sets.		
195.	052030H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	548/8/66	SITREP: Works: Def wiring West rte 2 90%. 6 RAR Ech Rd 15%. Garbage dump development 65%. Dust Off Rd culvert 100%. Culvert Canberra Ave North 25%. Assistance with TF Scale A continued.		
196.	052215H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	549/8/66	OPDEM: Pistols 9mm Browning, qty 12, required for next op.		
197.	052230H	1 Fd Sqn	AFV	550/8/66	For Engr: Defect incident reports submitted on Tractor Wheeled industrial size 8, Caterpillar 966B, reg No 97174 and 97175. Arm & bearing assy 5K5359. Cracks appeared in cross member during normal usage. Defects repaired by welding, AF3600 submitted, DIR submitted through normal channels. Bucket pins fractured in two instances in two months. Considered to be caused by stress concentration at internal radial lubrication hole. Defect report yet to be submitted on tractor wheeled industrial size 5, Massey Ferguson. Bull blade lift arms cracked at welds in 4 cases out of 4 machines received new in theatre. No work done. Please advise E in C.		
198.	070800H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP N.T.R.		
199	071200H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP N.T.R.		
200.	072045	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP N.T.R.		

1 FD SQN RAE OPS LOG

DATE/TIME

FROM 072400H TO

Aug 66

SHEET NO 30

SERIAL	DATE TIME	FROM	TO	ORIG NO	MESSAGE OR DETAIL	ACTION	COMPLETED
201	072400H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP. N.T.R.		
202	080400H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP N.T.R.		
203	081345H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	566/8/66	OPDEM: 1½ volt dry cell batteries 50 required for OP HOLDWORTHY, also 600 caps blasting non elec.		
204.	082000H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	568/8/66	SITREP: N.T.R.		
205.	091200H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP. N.T.R.		
206.	091600H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	S	SITREP: N.T.R.		
207.	092400H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP. N.T.R.		
208.	100800H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
209.	102000H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
210.	102400H	1 ATF	1 Fd Sqn	G856	Unsafe and Faulty ammo report.		
211.	111130H	1 ATF	1 Fd Sqn		Arranged for mov fwd of Cpl RANSOM to BINH BHA to inspect wiring in old French Garrison for use by Cdo and 5 RAR coys.		
212.	111435H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		Advised G2. Can provide limited lighting to Cdo Coy in Villa, will send electrician fwd 12 Aug. Airfd appears to be satisfactory for landing C130; 2200 yds by 90 yds. vehicle drove. For reticulated water will require electric pump and use hand sterilization to header tank.		
213	112030H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	580/8/66	SITREP: WORKS: Culvert Canberra Ave North 90%. Concrete culvert 45%. Clearing rubber Ingleburn Ave 80% . 6 RAR loop rd 60%. Svcs area access rd 95%.		

1 FD SQN RAE OPS LOG

DATE/TIME

FROM 112400H TO

Aug 66

SHEET NO 31

SERIAL	DATE TIME	FROM	TO	ORIG NO	MESSAGE OR DETAIL	ACTION	COMPLETED
214	112400H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
215	120800H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
216	121300H	1 Fd Sqn	USAF LO		Lay on FAC for Neptune trip 13 Aug 66. CONFIRMED	Advised ALSG.	
217	121530H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		Request clearance for demo UXB West of AN PHU	Clearance Given	
218	122000H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	588/8/66	SITREP: Works: Culvert Canberra Ave 98%. Wiring gap 6 RAR Aslt Pnrs 10%. Felling rubber trees at Canberra Ave completed. Drainage US Bty area 30%. Surfacing Enoggera Rd completed.		
219	122100H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	589/8/66	235269 Lt G STEWART exchange offr to 25th Inf Div.		
220	122400H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
221	130800	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
222	130940H	1 Fd Sqn	AFV	591/8/66	FOR ENGR: Request release of two size 5 tractors wheeled one with FEL, one with dozer. Machines held at present US awaiting parts.		
223	131545H	1 Fd Sqn	ALSG	595/8/66	FOR 55 AESB: Materials required for CP construction. 250 lengths of 6"x6", 15,000 lin ft of 4"x4", 50,000 lin ft of 6"x1". pl advise availability.		
224	132000H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	598 /8/66	SITREP:WORKS: Defence wiring Engr to 6 RAR 75%. Drainage US 161 Bty 100%. Other works delayed due to rain.		
225	140800H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
226	141935H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		Report of firing, 2 rds SW of WP distance 300meters.	Nil action	
227	142000H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		

1 FD SQN RAE OPS LOG

DATE/TIME

FROM 151520H TO

Aug 66

SHEET NO 32

SERIAL	DATE TIME	FROM	TO	ORIG NO	MESSAGE OR DETAIL	ACTION	COMPLETED
228	151520H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	607/8/66	NOTICAS: 214933 Lep1 D COOK non battle casualty. Gunshot wound left foot. Condition not serious		
229	15200H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	608/8/66	SITREP: WORKS: Drainage 6 RAR 10%.		
230	152005H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	609/8/66	One size 5 tractor US with burst hydraulic hose. Est repair by 161200H. Other US waiting wheel studs.		
231	161300H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	612/8/66	Report of Fire. One tent 12'x14' used as living quarter completely destroyed.	Investigation to be carried out.	
232	162000H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	613/8/66	SITREP: WORKS: Culvert Canberra Ave Nth 8%. Latrine 1 Fd Sqn HQ 50%. Drainage 6 RAR 15%. Concrete culvert 6 RAR 47%. Drainage 1 Sqn HQ 90%.		
233	170255H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		Approx 8 mors landed in unit area. Cas reported - Tp Comd 1 Tp bad shrap wounds to leg. 8 Tp - 1 shrap to shoulder, 21 Tp - 1 shrap, 3 Tp 5 with shell splinters. Some SA fire to NE.		
234	170345	3 Fd Tp	1 Fd Sqn		2 men NOT 5, received shell splinters in 3 Tp	TF informed.	
235	170350H	1 Fd Sqn	All Tps		Reduce to 25% stand to.		
236	170730H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	614/8/66	NOTICAS: 54156 Capt D W PAINE, battle cas. Mortar shrap to legs. Condition serious.		
237	170735H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	615/8/66	NOTICAS: 2782597 Spr K E MORRIS. Mortar shrap to shoulder. Not serious.		

1 FD SQN RAE OPS LOG

DATE/TIME

FROM 170735H TO

Aug 66

SHEET NO 33

SERIAL	DATE TIME	FROM	TO	ORIG NO	MESSAGE OR DETAIL	ACTION	COMPLETED
238	170735H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	616/8/66	NOTICAS: 235269 Lt G STEWART Superficial chest wound. No intention to evac.	Priority.	
239	170735H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	617/8/66	NOTICAS: 242802 Sgt B W SANT. Superficial buttock wound. No intention to evac.		
240	170730H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	618/8/66	MORTREP: 1 Fd Sqn. GR438664. NE Direction. 170245H. 170300H. 1 Fd Sqn and 3 SAS. Rapid mortar fire. 20 to 25 HE.		
241	172000H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
242	180800H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
243	182000H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
244	191200H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
245	192020H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: WORKS: 6 RAR Ech rd 60%. 5 RAR access rd 75% Svcs Area hardstand 10%. ADM: No progress on veh and plant spare parts. Large number of vehs and plant awaiting parts. Nine reinforcements still to arrive.		
246	201000H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	633/8/66	MAINTDEM: 48 M26 grenades and 9000 rds 9mm required.		
247	202000H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	635/8/66	SITREP: WORKS. Loop rd 6 RAR 60%. Latrine 1 Fd Sqn completed. Concrete culvert 6 RAR 50%. CP 1 Fd Sqn 25%. Culvert 1 Tp 50%.		
248	202400H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	638/8/66	SITREP: N.T.R.		
249	210800H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	839/8/66	SITREP: N.T.R.		

1 FD SQN RAE OPS LOG

DATE/TIME
FROM 212030H TO

Aug 66

SHEET NO 34

SERIAL	DATE TIME	FROM	TO	ORIG NO	MESSAGE OR DETAIL	ACTION	COMPLETED
250	212030H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	642/8/66	SITREP: WORKS: Ecg Loop Rd 6 RAR 80%. Clearing TF rubbish tip 90%. Scale A : TF slab TOC 50%. Food prep rooms & showers C Coy and Sp Coy 6 RAR 100%. Drainage Ingleburn Ave 50%. Kangaroo access track 100%. Culvert under airstrip 35%. Sqn explosives mag 10%. ADM: Large percentage of Sqn vehs & Plant us awaiting spare parts.		
251	220800H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
252	221600H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: M.T.R.		
253	222000H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	647/8/66	SITREP: WORKS. TOC 2nd of 4 20'x10' bays completed. Food prep rooms SAS 75%. Showers slabs 6 RAR poured. Ammo bays US Guns 60%. POL bays ARU 40%. grading 6 RAR loop rd 80%. Concrete culvert 6 RAR 50%.		
254	230800H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP. N.T.R.		
255	232000H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	657/8/66	SITREP: WORKS. CP 1 Fd Sqn 75%. Culvert Canberra ave Nth 35%. Sqn explosive mag 30%. 3 SAS food prep room 95% TF HQ Offr Mess slab 100%. 6 RAR Food prep room slab 100%. 6 RAR Shower 95%. 5 RAR PX site levelling 40%. ADM: 5 out of 16 tippers on rd, remainder awaiting spare parts.		
256	241145H	1 APC Sqn	1 Fd Sqn		Advised rd clearing required only twice weekly, days to be advised by OC 1 APC Sqn.	1 & 3 Tps notified.	
257	242000H	1 Fd Sqn	AFV	654/8/66	For Engr: Request for stock holdings of refrigeration tongue & grove flooring. This info is essential to allow TF Engr to allocate fair proportions of flooring. Refrig holdings are required to ascertain priorities for release to units. Request also allocation timber		

1 FD SQN RAE OPS LOG

DATE/TIME

FROM 242200H TO

Aug 66

SHEET NO 35

SERIAL	DATE TIME	FROM	TO	ORIG NO	MESSAGE OR DETAIL	ACTION	COMPLETED
258	242200H	1 Fd Sqn	AFV	656/8/66	FOR ENGR: Require 1,000,000 lin ft 4x1 flooring, 110,000 lin ft 4x2, 23,000 ft 6x6 for Mk 3. Sufficient concrete ordered for Mk 2.		
259.	250800H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
260	252000H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	661/8/66	SITREP: WORKS: Sqn CP 90%. 6 RAR Ech Rd surfacing 50% 6 RAR BHQ loop rd 20%. TF POL point 40%. Rubbish pit cleanup, one dozer all day. Canberra Ave Nth drain 50%. Concrete shower slabs HQ 5 RAR 100%. Food prep rooms B Coy 6 RAR 100%. Food Prep rooms Offrs/Sgts TF HQ 100%. Formwork 3 prep rooms TF HQ 20%. ADM: 80ft Bailey Br arrived this loc by LSM for Br at AN PHU and TF reserve.		
261	261000H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	663/8/66	MAINT DEM: Required for quarrying, 600 lbs dynamite.		
262	262015H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	666/8/66	Deadline Eqpt: 3 dump trucks, 2 oliver dozers, 1 oliver backhoe, 3 size 4 tractors tracked with dozers, 2 michigan FELs, 1 vibrating roller, 1 massey ferguson dozer, 3 compressors, 1 crane, 2 Cat FELs. Cannibalisation should mobilise 2 dozers and 1 Cat FEL within 2 days.		
263	262115H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	667/8/66	SITREP: WORKS: Shower shelter 6 RAR HQ complete. Formwork 103 Sigs double food pre room 70%. Bridge at AN PHU 20% Culvert TF HQ car park complete.		
264	262145H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		MG fire East of posn.	TOC advised elements of 6 RAR firing at suspected en mov.	
285	270800H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
286	272030H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	673/8/66	SITREP: WORKS: Br at AN PHU completed. 103 Sig food Prep room 25%. TF HQ Prep Room 40%. Showers 103 Sig complete.		

1 FD SQN RAE OPS LOG

DATE/TIME
FROM 280800H TO

Aug 66

SHEET NO 36

SERIAL	DATE TIME	FROM	TO	ORIG NO	MESSAGE OR DETAIL	ACTION	COMPLETED
287	280800H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
288	281200H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
289	282000H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	677/8/66	SITREP: N.T.R.		
290	282015H	1 Fd Sqn	AFV	678/8/66	For Engr: Please advise if Hydro Inflation kit is avail for Size 5 wheeled tractor. Without this the machine is Useless in wet or dry for tasks requiring tractive effort at all.		
291	282400H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	679/8/66	SITREP: N.T.R.		
292	290925H	1 Fd Sqn	DES AHQ	681/8/66	Request original valve of water purification set AB3 1,000 GPH for board of survey.		
293	291600H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
294	301115H	1 ATF	1 Fd Sqn		Warn out demo teams for LONG THANH.	OC, Tp Comd & 11 moved to LONG THANH 301145H by Helicopter	
295	301312H	1 Tp	Sqn rear	Radio	Send out 2 men for addt demo team plus 600lbs TNT.	Left TF area	1400 hrs.
296	301630H	1 Tp	Sqn rear	Radio	Send 600 lbs TNT - resupply	Left TF area	1700 hrs.
297	301915H	1 ATF	1 Fd Sqn		Send out 200 lbs TNT resupply at 310630H	Fixed	
298	302110H	1 ATF	1 Fd Sqn		Confirmation of RAAF helicopter for Recce by Lt ALLANSON.	Lt Allanson advised.	
299	302115H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF	695/8/66	SITREP: WORKS: Clearing perimeter 6 RAR 10%. Culvert airfield 100%. Food prep room 5 RAR 100%. Triple food prep room HQ TF 30%.		
300	302400H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		

1 FD SQN RAE OPS LOG

DATE/TIME

FROM 310400H TO

Aug 66

SHEET NO 37

SERIAL	DATE TIME	FROM	TO	ORIG NO	MESSAGE OR DETAIL	ACTION	COMPLETED
301	310400H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
302	310800H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
303	311155H	1 ATF	1 Fd Sqn	G1288	Wrg 0. TOLEDO extension. 0 Gp 311600H	OC Notified.	Ack fwd.
304	311205H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
305	311600H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		
306	312000H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: WORKS: Concreting Adm Coy 5 RAR Showers complete. Hospital slap 2 Fd Amb 40%. Food Prep room Adm Coy 5 RAR 40%.		
307	312400H	1 Fd Sqn	1 ATF		SITREP: N.T.R.		

Annex A to Monthly
Tech Report to E in C

MONTHLY TECHNICAL REPORT TO E in C

AS AT 31 Aug 66

PERSONNEL

1 FD SQN

Rank	Estb Str	Posted Str	Deficiencies					Remarks
			Vacant	Hosp	AWOL	Course	Other reasons	
Offrs	8	7	1				(1) Sp Cont not 05 Aug/25 May	Sp Cont not
WOs	1	1						
Sgts	9	9						
Cpls	14	14		1				1 Lvy
Sprs	111	103	8	4			1 Att ADV	1 Clerk Tech 4 PS 1 Plumber & Pipe
TOTAL	143	134	9	5				

ATT. 100 LD H LANTIER (05 Aug/25 May) 00

21 Aug Spt Tp

Rank	Estb Str	Posted Str	Deficiencies					Remarks
			Vacant	Hosp	AWOL	Course	Other reasons	
Offrs	1	1						
WOs								
Sgts	4	4					1 Clerk of Works not to arrive	
Cpl	7	7						
Spr	41	39	2	1				1 Fitter H & T 1 Carp & Joiner
TOTAL	52	51	2	1				

1 Pd Sqn Wkaps

Rank	Estb Str	Posted Str	Deficiencies					Remarks
			Vacant	Hesp	AWOL	Course	Other Reasons	
Offrs	1	1						
WOs	1	1						
Sgts	4	4						
Cpls	5	4		1				
Sfn	18	19					1 x Emergency Leave	
TOTAL	29	29						

EQUIPMENT

1 PD SQN

Vehicles & Plant	Entitlement	Held	Deficient	Unsvc	Remarks
3 ton GS	6	7			1 in lieu of 7th
1 ton trailer	7	7			
1 ton GS FFR	1	1	1		1 ton GS in lieu
2 1/2 ton GS	4	4			
2 1/2 ton Dump	10	10			
1 ton trailer	13	13			
16 ton trl flat bed	3	3			
Tractor Size 0 with dozer & ripper	2	2			
Tractor Size 0 with loader & back hoe	2	1			1 awaiting pickup from GPO
Tractor Size 2 with dozer & ripper	3	3			
Tractor Size 8 with loader	3	3			
Tractor Size 5 with Trailer tipping 3 ton	7	7			
Roller 3,000 lbs Vibrating	6	6			
Roller 2,500 lbs multi wheel	1	1			
Compressor 100 cfm	1	1			
	2	2			

1 Fd Sqn Whseps

Vehicles & Plant	Entitlement	Held	Deficient	Uneve	Remarks
1 ton GS	1	1			
1 ton trailer	3	3			
1 ton Auto Repair shop	1	1			
1 ton Auto Repair trl	1	1			
1 ton Machine shop	1	1			
1 ton Machine shop trl	1	1			
1 ton Welding shop	1	-	1		
1 ton Welding shop trl	1	-	1	1	
2½ ton GS	2	2			
5 ton M543 Wrecker	1	1			
¾ ton Lube and Service Unit	1	1			
½ ton Lube and Service trailer	1	1			
5 KVA Trl Mtd	1	1			
Welder 300 Amp Trl Mtd	1	1			

21 Engr Sp Tp

1 ton GS	3	3			
1 ton trailer	3	3			
1 ton Machine shop	1	-			Not yet received
1 ton Machine shop trl	1	-			
2½ ton GS	1	1			
1 ton trailer	1	1			
2½ ton dump	2	2			
8 ton GS	1	1			
20 ton low bed trailer	1	1			
10000lb crane non-revolving	1	1			
Grader 12' blade	2	3			1 from 17 Const Sqn
Scraper 7/9 c yd	2	4			2 from force pool
Tractor Size 4 with dozer & ripper	2	1			1 on loan 17 Const
Tractor Size 4 with dozer & winch	1	2			1 from 17 Const Sqn
Tractor Size 7 with loader 2 c yd	3	3			
Roller multi wheel 2500 lb	1	1			
Compressor 250 cfm	1	1			

ADDITIONAL PLANT ON LOAN FROM FORCE POOL

Rock crusher 40 tph - 1

Tractor wheeled indust size 5. - 4

Tractor wheeled size 7 with f/lift

Mixers concrete 3 o ft

" " 5 o ft

" " 7 o ft

" " 14 o ft

Tractors tracked size 0 with PHL/BI 1

Tractors tracked size 0 with BB/ripper 1

PART 2 PS & INT
OPERATIONS

3. Operational Tasks:

- a. 5 Aug 66. Ground recce of feasibility of constructing bypass route to WEST of 1 ATF during wet season to permit local traffic from BINH BA and points NORTH, to BARIA. Not practical in wet season, and extensive construction project even in dry season.
- b. 9 Aug 66. 3 Fd Tp in support of Operation HOLSWORTHY, Combat Operations after action Report Annex A.
- c. 17 Aug 66. Destruction of one blind 75mm mountain gun shell, check of reported blind 82mm mors after mor attack on TF HQ. Mor blinds proved to be tail fins embedded in ground.
- d. 18 Aug 66. Supplied vehicles, forklift and work party to unload 66,000 lbs arty ammo flown forward 2045 hrs to resupply arty sp to 6 RAR - Op SMITHFIELD.
- e. 19 Aug 66. Warned to move Massey Ferguson backhoe and Oliver dozer by Chinook to battlefield to bury 308 VC dead from Op SMITHFIELD. Task cancelled, done by Infantry with shovels.
- f. Neutralized several grenades recovered from VC bodies.
- g. 24 Aug 66. Recce party cleared two lanes through old protective minefield at DUC THAN village (YS 4677) to enable ARVN garrison force to recover two loads of 105mm ammo paratropped into minefield. One M16 mine in poor condition was located, pulled, (mine fell to pieces during pulling) and blown in situ. Densely overgrown grass was such as to make prodding almost useless, and the mine was located by use of the mine detector.
- h. 26 Aug 66. Installed 40 ft SS US M2 bridge (Bailey) at Ap An Phan (YS 437692) over top of improvised bridge installed in July. This bridge was required to ensure that Route 2 could support the fast move of a large reaction force to the NORTH is required. The improvised bridge was retained in situ in case the Bailey should ever have to be pulled out at short notice for use elsewhere. The improvised bridge is satisfactory for local traffic using Rte 2 (Cl 12) but is subject to erosion damage and could not support APC's and SP 155mm. howitzers. Bypass is difficult in the wet and can not be improved until the dry season.
- i. 30 Aug 66. Sent four two man demo teams and Mighty Mite team to join 5RAR in LONG THAN village (YS 4965) on report of tunnels being encountered - Op DARLINGHURST. Report Annex B.
- k. 31 Aug 66. Warned for Recce at YS 286633 and YS 263671 to advise ARVN on installation of protective minefields - recce organised for 1 Sep 66.
- l. Daily clearance Rte 2 for mines and booby traps 2 sappers with mine detectors

4. TF BASE DEVELOPMENT TASKS.

- a. Op TF water point Dvg rate approx 20,000 gals per day.
- b. Development and maint rds and access tracks and area drainage.
- c. Further development of TF rubbish pit, and service of pit by dozer.
- d. Development Services area hardstand.
- e. Commencement of const of TF POL pt to take two 10,000 gal pillow tanks.
- f. Further development of rock quarry and preparations of rock crusher site in quarry. Some isolated shelf rock was located and this is drilled and blasted daily.

- g. Installed first 150 Ft 48" culvert across SRT airfd site.
- h. Further development of all weather access track to HUI DAT, 80% complete.
- j. Commenced construction 3 Kingstrand huts and continued with Scale A. 8 Const Tp of 17 Const Sqn joined 1 Fd Sqn on 8 Aug 66 with the mission to undertake scaled accon const. Progress report Annx C. Modified designs have been produced for latrine and abultion shelters to render them fly & mosquito proof. These designs are no more expensive on material (except for fly wire and door) and require no more labour nor greater skills than the standard designs. See Annx D.
- k. 1 Fd Sqn OR's canteen (as per ECD 16734) built by off duty sappers. 40 ft x 20 ft on existing concrete slab.
- l. Constructed prototype, pit type incinerator (as per Appx G4 to E- in - C Consolidated Intsums Nos 1 - 17) in 1 Fd Sqn area.
- m. Op engr stores supply.

5. CIVIL AFFAIRS.

- a. Site preparation work was done for construction of new market place in HOA LONG.
- b. Assigned responsibility for supervision of contractor for market place const.
- c. Rd maint Rte 2 through HOA LONG village.

6. VISITS AND CONFERENCES :-

- a. 5 Aug 66. Maj MARKHAM, S2 Engr of FF V 11 visited to discuss engr reports to his HQ. Requested to be included on distribution list of E - in - C Monthly Tech Report.
- b. 6 Aug 66. Visit by VUNG TAU area comd, Col Church and discussed possible use of Binh Ba airfd to resupply 1 ATF by C130. Requested USAF to check airfd for use by C130's.
- c. 22 Aug 66. Visit by Lt Col Rogers, CO 2 Fd Amb to discuss engr requirements to improve TP hygiene particularly the garbage dump. The restricted site available, plus shortage of dozers makes normal sanitary cut an fill undesirable. It was decided to attempt to construct a large scale inclined plane incinerator for installation at the edge of the pit to permit partial incineration of garbage prior to dumping in pit.
- d. 23 Aug 66. Recce Officer attended conference at FFV 11 Engr Sect to discuss responsibilities and methods of classification and marking of bridges throughout Corps area.
- e. 23 Aug 66. Lt M LEATHERWOOD (C.E. US Army) arrived from 65 Engr Bn (25 Inf Div, US) for 30 day exchange period. Tp Offr 3 Fd Tp Lt. G. STEWART departed to CU CHI on exchange tour. It is intended not to post American officer into the appointment vacated by the Australian officer, but to use him as an additional recce offr. and detach him to tps for interesting tasks.
- f. 24 Aug 66. Visit by Col Grace (Engr FF V 11) with other officers, to inspect engr works and discuss problems. Promised to provide 2 sets of 40 ft of DB Bailey Br, one set for use at An Phu Village, the other for ready reserve on the ground. Promised to produce some 18" or 24" culvert material, which had been not available for some weeks. Discussed proposed use of 300,000 sq ft R3A1 solid steel planking and same quantity T 17 membrane ordered by 1 ATF for use in airfd const, helipads, and hard stands.
- g. 25 Aug 66.
(1) OC visited 1st Inf Div (US) to discuss use of CS powder dropped from aircraft to provide a barrier. Americans have used this with unknown success. They drop 30 x 55 gal drums from a Chinook with a time fuse designed to detonate the drum just before impact. However, the resulting gas has been known to shift as much as 9 KM in a light breeze. The residual effect is only 2 or 3 days in wet weather or a week in dry, and it is considered that there is no application for this procedure in 1 ATF TAOR.

6. (2) Spoke to 1 Div Chemical Officer on use of improvised incendiary devices in perimeter defence, particularly "Phengasse" and "HUSCH Flares". At some later date, 1 Div will send team to 1 Pd Sqn to install some of these devices and instruct sappers in their const and use.
- h. Visited by Col RAYNEY, XO 18 Engr Bde to discuss 1 Pd Sqn combat engr up of 1 ATF.

INTELLIGENCE.

7. Airfda. During Op HOLSWORTHY, Binh Ba airfda was reconnoitred and it appears to be satisfactory for use by C130. The surface is grass covered laterite with some craters in the North Eastern 100 yards. Length approx 5000 ft and width of 300 ft. Appears well drained.
8. 1 En capt
- a. Several grenades which were recovered during Op SMITHFIELD were neutralized. None of these were new types. Unfortunately, Infantry destroyed many on grenades in situ before engr could arrange to recover them. This should not happen in future.
- b. Some VC gas masks were recovered. These consist of plastic bags with elasticised head holes and cotton gauze filter pads incorporated to give crude protection from gases.
9. Weather. Rainfall report indicated Annex E.
10. Bridges.
- a. Engr bridges installed and held by unit are included in Ann F which is a monthly report requirement for FF V II, Engr.
- b. On 24 Aug 66 part of GI 9 Br Ho 40A at YS 370540 was destroyed when a US recovery vehicle with dumptruck in tow exceeded the classification. Intended repair or replacement action is not yet known. This decision will no doubt be made by FF V II.

PART 3 ENGR STORES.

11. Until 4 Aug 66, DAA and QMG had been controlling allocation of all engr stores except for Pd Def stores which were allocated by O Ops. On 4 Aug 66, OC 1 Pd Sqn took over full responsibility for ordering, receipt, allocation, and issue of all engr stores to TF units. DAA and QMG still provides allocation basis, but 21 Engr Sp Tg checks issues against allocation and releases items as they arrive in response to engr initiated requests. Def stores are issued as required to units, and such items as flooring timbers, CP timbers, are allocated on population or functional basis.
12. On taking over con of engr stores completely, 21 Engr Sp Sp initiated staff action to obtain shipping to move large quantities of engr stores fwd by LSM and US LCU. These craft bypass the low classification bridges between Baria and Vung Tau and have enabled large tonnages of engr stores to be brought forward.

PART 4 GENERAL COMMENTS.

13. Spare Parts. Despite expressed concern at all levels about lack of spare parts for vehicles and engr plant, and despite some improvement in the supply of spare parts the resupply system still leaves much to be desired as is indicated in the status report shown in Annex C, which amplifies para 2 of this report.
14. Reinforcements. The following list of deficiencies in personnel shows that a large number of reinforcements are required. Work output is suffering from the lack of personnel.

/List

List of deficiencies of 1 Fd Sqn.

One	Capt	Tp Comd	
One	Spr	Clerk Tech	ECN 243
One	Spr	Driver	ECN 302
Four	Spr	FE	ECN 353
One	Spr	Fitter (E & P)	ECN 375
Two	Spr	Plant Ops	ECN 671
One	Spr	Plumber & Pipefitter	ECN 675
One	Spr	Carp & Joiner	ECN 222

15. Medical. Apart from declared deficiencies, a large proportion of the unit is not medically Class 1. Much work time is being lost by the necessity to provide medication and group therapy to the large number of people suffering from skin rashes and diseases. Owing to the prevalence of the day biting encephalitis mosquito, it has become necessary for all personnel to wear shirts and long trousers at all times, and this, with the hot and humid conditions encountered by sappers on most of their tasks, has aggravated skin rashes.


Maj
(W W LEMON) OC

- Anx A. ~~Combat Ops After-action Report. Op HOLWORTHY~~
B. ~~" " " " " " Op BARTISCOMBE~~
C. Progress Report -- TF Base Development.
D. ~~Modified Goals & latrine and shower shelters.~~
E. Rainfall Report.
F. ~~Eqpt Ex Status Report.~~
G. Unserviceable Eqpt Report.

Progress Report - TF Base Development.

1. ROADS

Rock surfaced 2 way	2800 metres
" " 1 way	400 "
Laterite surfaced 2 way	3200 "
" " 1 way	3300 "
Natural earth 2 way	1600 "
" " 1 way	4000 "

Total 15,300 metres

2. Buildings completed - Scales A and B.

a. Food Prep rooms	20
b. Shower shelters	14
c. Latrines	2
d. Tropical huts	3 x 40' long
(as per HCB 10734	1 x 50' "
modified)	1 x 80' "

3. Concrete poured :- Includes slabs for bldgs of para 2.

23 Food prep room slabs	715 sq yds
21 Washup slabs	224 " "
15 Shower shelter and ablution slabs	600 " "
2 latrine slabs	21 " "

Total 1560 sq yds

4. Earthworks

D/Fill and dower drainage	10,500 cu yds
Fill to rds	2,000 " "
Rock excavation	4,500 " "
Stripping (excl rds)	2,000 " "
Laterite extraction for	
rd surfacing	15,000 " "

Total 33,000 cu yds

5. Scrub clearing

Fire lanes, fields of vision etc 250 acres

6. WATER

gain

7. Culvert installed -- (Incl work in progress)

48"	2 x 50 ft		
	1 x 150 ft		
	1 x 30 ft		
24"	150 ft various locs		
18"	900 ft	"	"
Bomb Cases	300 ft	"	"

DATERAINFALL

PREVIOUS AVERAGE FOR THIS AREA

MONTH OF AUG 12.81

AVERAGE DAYS

WITHOUT RAIN 13

MONTHLY TOTAL 1933

DAYS WITHOUT RAIN 8

	75
2	25
3	25
4	25
5	-
6	25
7	100
8	50
9	75
10	75
11	50
12	100
13	150
14	50
15	25
16	25
17	-
18	150
19	300
20	-
21	125
22	50
23	75
24	3
25	75
26	75
27	75
28	25
29	15
30	50
31	50

1943	Total
------	-------

1 EP 301 RAE GP

REPAIR DELAY STATE

31 AUG 66

ANNEX A to 1 ATF
R980-1-9

EQPT	Entitled oment	Holding	UNSV Awaiting Parts	Date UNSV	Date Indents Submitted	Date BELD	Remarks
Truck $\frac{3}{4}$ ton GS	15	13	5	24.8.66 1.8.66 23.8.66 23.8.66 24.7.66	24.8.66 1.8.66 23.8.66 23.8.66 24.7.66		
Truck $2\frac{1}{2}$ ton GS	7	7	1	3.8.66	5.8.66		
Truck $2\frac{1}{2}$ ton Dump	12	15	1	14.8.66	15.8.66	23.8.66	1 x BELD 2 x AAF F406 for Return to ORD. 4 x loan from 1 Coy RAASC
10,000 lb Crane Non revolving	1	1	1	25.6.66	1.7.66		
Scraper 7/9 c.yd	2	4	1	2.7.66	5.7.66		
Tractor size 7 w/loader	3	3	1	5.7.66	11.8.66		Re-indented, wrong Part rec'd.
Roller multi- wheeled 25000 lb	2	2	1	12.8.66	15.8.66		
Compressor 250 CFM	1	1	1	16.7.66	23.7.66		
Compressor 100 CFM	2	2	1	21.8.66	24.8.66		
Tractor size 0 w/Doz & Ripper	2	3	1	2.7.66	4.7.66		1 x Force Pool 1 x UNSVC in progress
Tractor Size 0 w/loader & B/H	2	2	1	24.6.66 19.8.66	26.6.66 23.8.66		1 x Force Pool Sig Demand
Tractor Size 4 w/Dozer & Ripper; w/Dozer & Winch	3	3	1	27.8.66			Inspection in progress for ordering spares
Tractor Size 8 w/loader	3	3	1	18.7.66 20.7.66 19.8.66	18.7.66 20.7.66 19.8.66		
Tractor WE.IND Size 5	-	4	1	19.1.66	19.7.66		On loan ex Force Pool
Roller towed 3000 lb Vibrating	1	1	1	27.8.66	27.8.66		
GEN SET 5 KVA TLR MID	1	1	1	30.8.66	31.8.66		

1 Pz Sqn RAE
NUI DAT

27 Aug 66.

Subject: Combat operations after Action Report.

To: Commander, 1 ATF.

Copy to: SORE 2 AFV.

1. Name and Type of Operation: Operation HOLSWORTHY. The operation incorporated village search, and search and blocking operations.
2. Dates of operation: 9 Aug to 18 Aug 66
3. Location: Vicinity BINH BA, BGAI GIAO (DUC TRUNG), DUC MY hamlets, vic YS 480715.
4. Command HQ : 5 RAR
5. Reporting Officer: Major W W LENNON.
6. Task organisation:
 - a. Clearance BINH BA village 9-10 Aug. 1 x 2 man demo team with each section of search coy, B Coy. Engr tp cmd and 3 ORs on Coy HQ. Four engrs under cmd aslt pns at WP.
 - b. Clearance DUC TRUNG 9 Aug, 3 demo teams with each of 2 sections of 1 Pl, A Coy. Tp offr and radio op with pl HQ.
 - c. Clearance DUC MY, 10 Aug. 2 Demo teams with each pl of D Coy. Engr tp offr and op on Coy HQ. Same engr gp used for this task as for b.
 - d. Pacification of villages and opening Rte 2, 11-13 Aug. 3 demo teams with each coy (one per pl) and 10 engr on BHQ.
 - e. Area search vic YS 480715 14-18 Aug 66. 4 demo teams per pl with each pl of A Coy, 10 engrs on Coy HQ. Lead search pls each had one demo team per section and one on pl HQ. Engr storeman det to asalt pns.
 - d. On 14 Aug 66, engrs no longer required for WP. returned to base area.
7. Intelligence: At commencement of ops, no intelligence was avail on presence of tunnels or caches in villages. Intelligence obtained during early stages indicated there was a provincial VC HQ in concrete bunkers loc in vic of YS 480715. When this info was received, Mighty Mite was moved fwd to engrs, and gas turbine team placed on standby.
8. Mission: Engrs were to assist with Op of WP and to support 5 RAR as required with regard to booby traps and tunnels and rd clearance.

/9. Concept of Op.

9. Concept of Op :

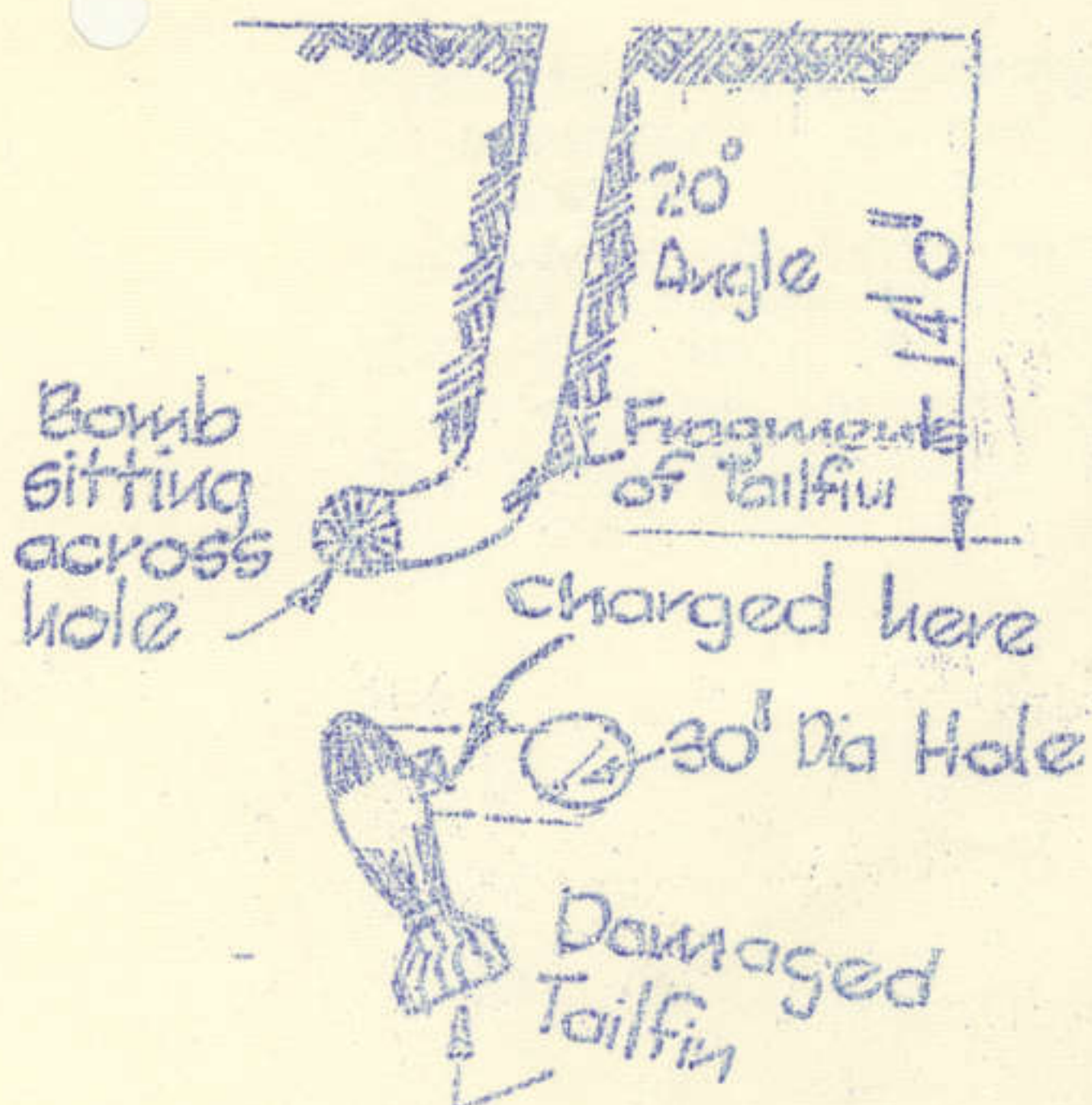
- a. Simultaneous cordon of BINH BA and DUC TRUNG by first light 9 Aug followed by detail search of each hamlet to apprehend and interrogate VCS.
- b. Hand over security BINH BA to 1 Cdo Coy ARVN.
- c. Open and secure Rte 2.
- d. Search area of suspected VC HQ (1500 metres square) using one search coy and remainder as blocking forces.
- e. Two coys of 6 RAR supported 5 RAR in each phase.

10. Execution:

During village search, dwelling were secured by infantry and searched by engr demp teams. 90% of houses had small local protection tunnels, seldom exceeding 20 feet in length, all of which were searched throughout. Generally the village search was fruitless. Events of engineer interest are documented below:

Day	Event	Comment
D Day	AFC mov engrs to BINH BA and DUC TRUNG. Searched villages - DUC TRUNG completed, BINH BA 50%. Established WP French village Well.	One electric det found in BINH BA. In DUC TRUNG, haversack of VC documents removed from floor of a house.
D+1	Completed search of BINH BA. Searched DUC MY	NTR Nothing found. The search of DUC MY was more orderly than the other villages. This village had been searched during Op SYDNEY and 3 VC killed. On this occasion people remained in their homes.
D+2	Engr regrouped:- 3 demo teams to each coy. 10 engrs BHQ. 4 engrs WP 2 engrs (Tp offr & Op) returned to base area. Destroyed 2 CBUs near D Coy loc.	APC used to move engrs. Difficulty lighting safety fuse in heavy rain. One CBU was part buried and was checked as booby trap.
D+3	Searched 2 houses containing mor bomb and CBU Destroyed CBU in B Coy area using grenade. C Coy - destroyed damaged M26 grenade. Rd clearance by 2 man detection team. Destroyed UXB in rubber plantation near BHQ.	Destroyed in situ. All detonators were saturated, so grenade was used to destroy blind. Grenade damaged by APC running over it. NTR Bomb was loc 14ft below ground level at bottom of 2'6" drain hole. Tail fins were dislodged from the bomb and lying in the hole.

D+3(Continued)



9lbs of TNT with 6 minute fuse were used to blow the bomb. demolition member was lowered head first by the feet to place the charge. Resulting crater was 36ft diameter and 10ft deep.

D+4	Rd clearance Rte 2.
D+5	Engrs regrouped with A Coy for area search.
D+6 to D+9	Investigated several holes and depressions. A deserted platoon position (containing 3 x 2 man pits and 18 single pits) was checked.

NTR

Position estimated 3 to 4 weeks old - no extension installations

11. Results ; 20 VCS apprehended in BINH BA.

12. Commanders Analysis:

- Village search technique was most satisfactory, but could have been speeded up considerably if more interpreters had been available. In several cases engr search parties had to wait for interpreters before they could commence house search.
- Provision of water was assigned to En assault pioneers, with four sappers and a Patterson tlr under comd. For operations extending over several days and operating from a static base, it is desirable to assign water supply responsibility to engr. On this op, the engr Tp comd had to assist with technical difficulties with water supply.
- During the area search for the VC provincial HQ, it was found that wherever old weapon pits were found, there were mounds of spoil heaped around the bases of trees. Although these sometimes look very natural, they should be considered by searchers as a warning sign that there may be VC diggings nearby.

12 d. /

- d. When engrg were regrouped at BHQ they were assigned 60 yds of perimeter. However, in the initial concept, this had not been anticipated. Owing to the lack of M60s on Sqn org (although two have been borrowed) it was not possible to send an M60 with the engr group. Since engrg did not have an M60, they were redistributed in groups of 3 throughout BHQ and rostered to man infantry guns. This situation re-affirms the requirement for M60 machine guns in the Pd Sqn.


Maj
W.W. LEMON
OC