

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

**Royal Australian Electrical and
Mechanical Engineers units**

Item number: 14/3/10

Item: 106 Field Workshop

Narrative

Annex

[1-31 Aug 1970]

COVERING LETTER

Reference No.....R707-1-1.....

To: OIC, Military History Section, AHQ.

For information: DEME, AHQ, Albert Park Barracks
Melbourne Vic, 3004

1. I enclose Commanders Diary (AF C 2118) (Adapted) as indicated at Part 2.

2. Please return receipt below.

(Signature)

Appointment

(OCA Unit or senior staff officer)

Ma

AF C 2119 (Adapted)
Revised Jun. 1965

SECRET

ORIGINAL
~~DUPLICATE~~

Strike out where
not applicable

COMMANDERS DIARY

OF

Unit or Formation..... 106 Fd Wksp. RAEME

From 1 Aug 70 **To** 31 Aug 70

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

[illegible]

† 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

TENTS

es 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.

to officers, men and equipment.

oment 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.

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

(continued on back cover)

COMMUNAL DIARIES 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.

COMPILATION

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

- Cover (AF C 2119) (Adapted).
- Index as printed on cover.
- Narrative (AF C 2118) (Adapted).
- Appendices 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 successive numbers of the diaries 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 annexes, the word NIL will be entered on the cover. If additional annexes are submitted for a particular headquarters, they are to be numbered as follows:

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

(ENTS)

as well as any references, establishment, equipment

and orders given.

the day's fighting, including company movements.

remainder with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

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or annexes, but need not give a précis of any of them.

numbered as back cover

COMMANDER'S DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION 106 Fd Wksp RAEME

MONTH and YEAR.....Aug 70

REFERENCE MAP.

COMMANDING OFFICER

A. A. NOLAN, *Edmund C...* Reference to
Maj annex letter and
or enclosure No

OC, 106 FD WKSP RAEME

Serial	Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or Information
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
1		1 - 10		Routine Duties
2		11 Aug 70		Started AHQ M113A1 Belly Uparmouring Project
3		12 - 24		Routine Duties
4	LONG LIEN YS4260	Ni 24/25		ICAP Protection Party
5		25 - 31		Routine Duties.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

R723-1-1

HQ 1ATF (4)

106 Fd Wksp RAEME
AFPO 4 GPO
SYDNEY NSW 2890

7 Sep 70

RAEME UNIT MONTHLY REPORT - AUG 70

Reference: A. AFV RAEME Technical Instruction No 20 of 28 Feb 70.

1. Subtended is the 106 Fd Wksp monthly report for Aug 70.

LESSONS LEARNT

Procedure Changes

2. The change in the format of category B1 accounting as required by AFV R35-1-7 of 29 Dec 69 is proving to be difficult for this unit. The reasons for this are:
 - a. Tasks to assist operational units must at all times take priority over Q activities.
 - b. The staff of the unit is designed to maintain an accounting system that is working and not take on the additional work of changing the accounting format. There is no chance of getting outside help as may be available in the ASA.
3. This change is only a change in format and not in the principles of category B1 accounting so while it is desirable for all units to be operating on the same format it is not essential. Operational units should not be required to implement major procedure changes which do not involve principles. Dispensation should be given so that they may wait until return to Australia before making the change.

WORKSHOP CAPACITY

General

4. The workshop was fully loaded during the month. The work load in the instrument section reached a peak towards the end of the month and consequently repair time spent on watches had to be reduced.

Output

5. The output for Aug 70 and work in progress at 31 Aug is shown in Annex A.

M113A1 Modifications

6. The modification programme commenced on the 11 Aug 70. Eighteen M113A1's were completed in Aug. They are currently being completed at a rate of six per week.

OPERATIONS OF INTEREST

Recovery

7. The workshop completed 80 recovery tasks in the month. The PETTIBONE fork-lift did 14 tasks for other units.

FRT

8. Two FRT's were deployed during the month. Their tasks were:
- a. Replacement of R/H rear suspension station on a Centurion MBT.
 - b. Replacement of R/H front suspension station on a Centurion MBT.

Civil Affairs

9. The unit deployed one officer and nineteen soldiers as an ICAP protection party on the night 24/25 Aug 70 at LONG LIEN. 120 school children from PHU MY and 100 from the DUC THAN area were taken by the unit to VUNG TAU for a swim. These outings are becoming very popular with the Vietnamese.
10. LONG THANH school was repainted, a fence put up and repairs completed before the new school year started on 10 Aug 70.

John Fitzpatrick
(J G FITZPATRICK)
Capt
ADMIN COMD

Annex: A. Output for Aug 70 and work in progress 31 Aug 70.

Internal:

Wksp Manager
QM
1Pl
2Pl
Stores Section
Comds Diary (3)

ANNEX A TO
 106 FD WKSP RAEME R723-1-1
 DATED SEP 70

OUTPUT FOR AUG AND WORK IN PROGRESS 31 AUG 70

1. Production Table

	A	B	Fl	Elec	GE	SA	Inst	Tels	Total
Jobs Brought Forward	5	22	3	35	26	6	22	20	139
Jobs Received	24	71	1	58	85	64	191	211	705
Jobs Completed	25	75	3	75	95	67	203	208	751
Jobs Carried Forward	4	18	1	18	16	3	10	23	93

2. Major Equipments Repaired and in Progress on 31 Aug 70

Equipment	Repaired	In Progress 31 Aug 70
Centurion MBT and Dozer	4	2
Centurion ARV	-	-
Centurion Bridgelayers	2	-
Carrier M113A1	10	1
Carrier M113A1 (Uparmouring)	18	2
Carrier M125 A1	1	1
Truck 5 ton GS F1	6	1
Truck 5 ton Dump GSF2	7	1
Truck 2½ ton GS MK3	7	-
Truck ¾ ton GS	40	7
Truck ¼ ton GS	7	-
Tractor size 5	2	1
Tractor size 7	3	-
Generating Sets (All types)	10	2
Trailers (All Types)	4	-
Radio Set AN/PRC 25	48	2
" " C42	9	-
" " B47	6	-
" " RT 524	11	1
" " AN/PRC 47	1	-
Typewriters	26	-
Projectors 16mm	5	1
Sights C2	2	-
106mm RCL	-	1
155mm SP GUN	1	-