

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

Royal Australian Electrical and  
Mechanical Engineers units

**Item number: 14/3/12**

**Item: 106 Field Workshop**

Narrative

Annex

[1-31 Oct 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)

*A. A. Nolan*

Appointment

A. A. NOLAN.

MajOC Unit or senior staff officer)

OC, 106 FD WKSP RAEME

**SECRET**

ORIGINAL  
DUPLICATE

Strike out where  
not applicable

**COMMANDERS DIARY**

OF

Unit or Formation 106 Fd Wksp RAEME

From 1 Oct 70 To 31 Oct 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

- ..... to .....
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\* 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, starting at B.

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

ENTS

s as well as map references), establishment, equipment  
l orders given.  
ie day's fighting, including company movements.  
mmander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

ntential importance.  
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uments issued and received, routine returns, etc. All  
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the annexes, but need not give a precis of any of them.

(continued on back cover)

AF C 2118 (Adapted)

COMMANDERS DIARIES

SECRET

SECRET

COVERING LETTERS

SECRET

OW 84/5  
E Box 47  
PART 3

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. Each 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. Appendix 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, an annex NIL will be entered on the cover. If additional annexes are convenient for a particular heading, listing of them.

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

ENDS

as well as map references, establishments, equipment

orders given.

10 day's fighting, including company movements.

remainder with regard to equipment, facilities, maps, etc.

essential importance.

officers, men and equipment.

prison captured.

employed in the time not summarized for. The type of

and to save work as much information as possible is to be annexes listed and received, routine returns, etc. All and the date of receipt or despatch is to be given.

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(continued on back cover)

1 B P Coy—274/65—55m

AWM 95

[14/3/04 70]

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 106 Fd Wksp RAEME

MONTH and YEAR Oct 70

REFERENCE MAP \_\_\_\_\_

COMMANDING OFFICER A. A. Nolan

| Serial | Place and grid reference | Date   | Time | Event or Information | A. A. NOLAN.<br>Maj<br>OC, 106 FD WKSP RAEME | Reference to annex letter and/or enclosure No.<br>(f) |
|--------|--------------------------|--------|------|----------------------|--|---|
| (a)    | (b)                      | (c)    | (d)  | (e)                  |  |   |
| 1      |                          | 1 - 31 |      | Routine Duties       |  |   |
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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

R723-1-1

HQ 1ATF (4)

106 Fd Wksp RAEME  
AFPO 4 GPO  
SYDNEY NSW 2890

8 Nov 70

RAEME UNIT MONTHLY REPORT - OCT 70

Reference: A. ARTI GEN D101-1.

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

WORKSHOP CAPACITY

General

2. The workshop was fully loaded during the month. The Instrument Sect was overloaded; however, by considerable effort they were able to reduce their carry over during the month. AAF F406s were raised for 122 watches.

M113A1 Modifications

3. All vehicles of Task Force are now completed. One vehicle remains to be done by 106 Fd Wksp. This is a mortar carrier from 2AOD. One belly armour kit is held for this vehicle.

Output

4. The output for Oct 70 and work in progress at 31 Oct is shown in Annex A.

PROBLEM AREAS

Centurion Modifications

5. In theatre modifications are made to all Centurion tanks on their arrival from Australia. The main change is to the track guard. The existing guards are removed and  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch steel plate is used in lieu. Lately the availability of  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch plate has been poor, consequently the modification of several tanks was delayed pending the arrival of plate. A saving of in theatre effort would result if the tanks were modified in Australia before being sent to South Vietnam.

Spare Parts

6. Land Rover exhaust manifolds have not been available recently and stocks are not due in until late November. Consequently AAF F406s had to be issued during Oct for three (3) Land Rovers.

OPERATIONS OF INTEREST

Recovery

7. The workshop completed 34 recovery tasks in the month. The Pettibone fork lift did 4 tasks for other units.

8. An interesting task was the recovery of a Land Rover from the beach area near Phuoc Tinh. The vehicle had been bogged in the sand. No heavy vehicle could get close enough to effect the recovery. A fitters track was dispatched and was guided to the bogged vehicle by the recovery officer who was overhead in a Sioux helicopter.

FRT

9. One FRT was deployed during the month. The task was the replacement of main and auxiliary engines on a Centurion MBT.

Civil Affairs

10. One beach picnic at Vung Tau for children from villages close to Nui Dat was run.

*A. A. Nolan*

(A.A. NOLAN)  
Maj  
OC

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

Internal:

Wksp Manager

QM

1P1

2P1

Stores Sect

Comds Diary (3)

OUTPUT FOR OCT AND WORK IN PROGRESS 31 OCT 70

1. Production Table

|                      | A | B  | Fl | Elec | GE | SA | Inst | Tels | Total |
|----------------------|---|----|----|------|----|----|------|------|-------|
| Jobs Brought Forward | 7 | 18 | 2  | 23   | 16 | 4  | 24   | 7    | 101   |
| Jobs Received        | 8 | 72 | 1  | 43   | 78 | 58 | 190  | 175  | 625   |
| Jobs Completed       | 8 | 74 | 2  | 55   | 80 | 58 | 195  | 176  | 648   |
| Jobs Carried Forward | 7 | 16 | 1  | 11   | 14 | 4  | 19   | 6    | 78    |

2. Major Equipment Repaired and in Progress on 31 Oct 70

| Equipment                  | Repaired | In Progress<br>31 Oct 70 |
|----------------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| Centurion MBT & Dozer      | 6        | 5                        |
| " ARV                      | 1        | -                        |
| Carrier M113               | 7        | 1                        |
| " " (Uparmoured)           | 10       | -                        |
| " M125                     | -        | 1                        |
| " M577                     | 1        | -                        |
| Truck $\frac{1}{4}$ ton    | 6        | 3                        |
| Truck $\frac{3}{4}$ ton    | 26       | 4                        |
| Truck $2\frac{1}{2}$ ton   | 8        | 1                        |
| Truck 5 ton                | 11       | 2                        |
| Truck 5 ton Dump           | 2        | -                        |
| Truck Recovery M543        | 2        | -                        |
| Tractor Size 5             | 1        | 1                        |
| Tractor Size 7             | 1        | -                        |
| Generator Sets (all types) | 10       | 3                        |
| Trailers (all types)       | 6        | -                        |
| Radio 25 Sets              | 43       | -                        |
| " C42 "                    | 4        | -                        |
| " RT524 "                  | 11       | -                        |
| Typewriter                 | 12       | 8                        |
| Projector 16mm             | 15       | 7                        |
| Sight Unit C2              | 2        | -                        |
| 155 SP Gun                 | 1        | -                        |