

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

Royal Australian Electrical and  
Mechanical Engineers units

**Item number: 14/2/14**

**Item: 102 Field Workshop**

Narrative

Annexes

[1-31 Jun 1968]



COVERING LETTER

Reference No. 6/68

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

OC 102 Fd Wksp RAEME

Appointment (OC Unit or senior staff officer)

30/7/68 [Signature]

**SECRET**

ORIGINAL }  
DUPLICATE }

Strike out where  
not applicable

**COMMANDERS DIARY**

OF

Unit or Formation 102 Fd Wksp RAEME

From 1 Jun 68 To 30 Jun 68

**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 .....
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† NIL  
† RETAINED  
† Despatched to

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

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

TENTS

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

otential importance.  
to officers, men and equipment.  
pment captured.  
employed in the time not accounted for. The type of

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

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(continued on back cover)

AWA 95

[14/2/Jan 68]

VE C 3110 (Vqubjcy)

SECRET

BVBL 3

СОЛБИК ТЕТЛЕР

BVBL 1



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

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 requested for a particular headquarters, during at B.

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

TENTS

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& orders given.

the day's fighting, including company movements.

remainder with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

essential importance.

to officers, men and equipment.

present captured.

employed in the time not accounted for. The type of

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AWM 95

[14/2/June 68]



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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C2118 (Adapted)  
Revised Jun 1965

Unit/Formation 102 Fd Wksp RAEME  
102 Fd Wksp Store Section

MONTH AND YEAR JUN 1968 REFERENCE MAP XA 442

COMMANDING OFFICER MAJ MB TINKLER

Place and Grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
Yang Tau 299447	1 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S144 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG	
" " "	2 Jun 68		<del>XX</del>	
" " "	3 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S145 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG	
" " "	4 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S146 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG	
" " "	5 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S147 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG	
" " "	6 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S 148 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG	
" " "	7 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S149 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG	
" " "	8 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S150 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. Visited by the Prime Minister Mr J GORTON	
" " "	9 Jun 68		<del>XX</del>	
" " "	10 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S151 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. 1 1/2 hrs extra per day worked for this week. Firing test carried out on 10mm armour plate. Result, no penetration of 7.62mm round, .50 cal, most rounds penetrate, some rounds dented the plate but did not penetrate. This is in contrast to the twogun shields manufactured by US repair ship "Corpus Christie Bay" where both .50 cal and 7.62 rounds <del>penetrated</del> penetrated with no trouble. Ranges in both tests, 7.62 110 yards .50 cal 130 yards. Manufacture of <del>gun</del> gun shields for the Cav Sqn can now proceed, Attached is a copy of some data supplied to 102 Fd Wksp by the ATO AFV.	I
" " "	11 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S152 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG	
" " "	12 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S153 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG	
" " "	13 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S154 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG	



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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C2118 (Adapted)  
Revised Jul 1965

Unit/Formation. 102 Fd Wksp. RAEME.....  
102 Fd Wksp Store Section

MONTH AND YEAR. JUN 1968..... REFERENCE MAP.... XA442.....

COMMANDING OFFICER. MAJ. MB. TINKLER.....

Place and Grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
Vung Tau 299447	14 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S155 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. Discussion CO 2 Maint Bn and Staff, DADEME AFV and SOSCO 2 AOD ref a higher degree of repair and provisioning support from 2 Maint Bn. Result. 1. 2 carriers to be sent to a Maint Bn for repair. 2. Closer liasion between 2 AOD and 2 Maint Bn. I do not expect much repair assistance to be available as 2 Maint Gn elements at Vung Tau appear to be overloaded.	
" " "	15 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S156 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG.	
" " "	16 Jun 68		NTR	
" " "	17 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S157 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. 1 1/2 hrs per day to be worked for this week. 2 Carriers sent to 2 Maint Bn for assessment. Carriers, 12 unfit repair tasks, 15 unfit repair tasks, 3 field repair tasks. 2 Maint Bn state that in the IIS system the Direct Support Units will not accept equipment on which organizational deficiencies are outstanding. No joy with these vehicles and we will try again when an engine or transmission requires replacement.	
" " "	18 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S158 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG.	
" " "	19 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S159 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. Capt Goulter M/O to 1 Independant Armd Sqn Wksp Rec Pl has completed the wall extensions in building 28 and 29 A carrier which requires the transmission replaced sent to 2 Maint Bn for repair. to save time 2 mechanics from 102 Fd Wksp have been sent to 2 Maint Bn to carry out the "Organizational Repair" while 2 Maint Bn change the transmission. Failed again, 2 Main Bn inspectors state that the transmission is worn but servicable. Vehicle returned to 102 Ed Wksp where the transmission will be changed. Either we changd our system or the support avabile is very limited. We will still keep trying.	



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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jul 1965

Unit/Formation: 102 Fd WkspRAEME  
102 Fd Wksp Store Section

MONTH AND YEAR... JUN 1968 ..... REFERENCE MAP..... XA 442 .....

COMMANDING OFFICER... MAJ MB TINKLER .....

Place and Grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
Vung Tau 299447	20 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S160 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. 2739 hrs production for week, average 62 hrs per tradesman. Backlog up by 954 hrs.	
" " "	21 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S161 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG.	
" " "	22 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S162 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG.	
" " "	23 Jun 68		Normal working hours for next week.	
" " "	24 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S163 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG.	
" " "	25 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S164 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. Work complete on additions to building 40 Stores Sect RSG Area	
" " "	26 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S165 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG.	
" " "	27 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S166 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. Capt Dittmar assumed duty as Wksp Offr.	
" " "	28 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S167 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. Captured one Sampan 3 men and 1 boy. G2 ALSG requested that we fire across the bow of a sampan <del>inside</del> in order to keep it to the required 1000m from the beach. Instead of moving out to sea the sampan came in to shore. Boarding party ( G2 Wksp Offr ) reached the sampan , result half a dozen small fish. Occupants cleared and told of the requirement to keep 1000m off shore.	
" " "	29 Jun 68	1700H	SITREP S 168 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. Working hours next week 0700 - 1200 1300 - 1730. Discussion with DADOS AFV OC 2 AOD OC 102 Fd Wksp <del>in</del> Store Section. 1. Possibility of using two priorities for equipment waiting parts. IRT for 2. JOF ( jobs on float ) Pri 3. This to distinguish essential equipments from non essential equipment. Decision to remain with IRT at this stage. 2. Inscaling Policy. If store section alone to inscale	



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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jul 1965

Unit/Formation 102 Fd Wksp RAEME  
102 Fd Wksp Store Section

MONTH AND YEAR... JUN 1968..... REFERENCE MAP..... XA 442.....

COMMANDING OFFICER... MAJ MB TINKLER.....

Place and Grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
Vung Tau 299447	29 Jun 68		no endoresment on <del>982E</del> 982E. If we require 2 AOD to hold back up them endorse 982E IN-SCALING. 3. My people do not understsnd Repar Parts Scales. Will fix. 4. Request for "alluminuim <del>Chromo</del> Plate" outstanding 3 months. DADOS will fix I hope.	
<del>XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX</del>	<del>29 Jun 68</del>			
" " "	30 Jun 68		NTR.	



Munich

18 May 68

Dear Baron Von Krupp

.50 M2 BALL

MV in a 45in barrel is 2935 fps, penetration data is only given for sand, clay, however a comparison may be made with the .50 AP M2 round which is similar to the ball except that it has a hardened core of manganese-molybdenum steel (ball core is soft steel and MV is the same). Briefly, the penetrative data for the AP M2 is;

	Inches at:		
	<u>200yds</u>	600yds	1,500yds
Armour plate (homogeneous)	1.0	0.7	0.3
Armour plate (face-hardened)	0.9	0.5	0.2

The figures for penetration of sand and clay are identical for both the ball penetration of steel would be only slightly below the figures above for AP. One might say that your shield never really had a hope in hades.

7.62mm BALL M59

The basic bullet velocity is 2,750 fps at 78ft from gun muzzle. No penetrative data is given for this cartridge, however we do know that it will zip through steel of whatever thickness your little shield was; Today's other useless piece of information is that it also has a steel core.

A brilliant solution to the whole problem would be to build a clay wall around the gunner 28 inches thick (100 lb dry wt/cu ft) because we know that would stop .50 at 200 yds; Or alternatively, whiz in and carve up the cactus M113 down in the big self service store in the sky (2AOD) and fabricate some decent shields out of the aluminium plate on that. I can give you some clues on how to gap thin sections of plate to increase effectiveness, if you want to give it a fly?

I remain, your humble and obt svt,