

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Royal Australian Electrical and
Mechanical Engineers units

Item number: 14/2/18

**Item: 102 Field Workshop and 102
Field Workshop Stores Section**

Narrative

[1-30 Nov 1968]

COVERING LETTER

Reference No. 11/68

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
Appointment OC 102 Fd Wksp RAEME
(OC Unit or senior staff officer)

SECRET

ORIGINAL } Strike out where
DUPLICATE } not applicable

COMMANDERS DIARY

OF

Unit or Formation 102 FD WKSP RAEME : 102 FD WKSP STORES SECTION

From 1 Nov 1968 To 30 Nov 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

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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

EVENTS

as well as map references), establishment, equipment and orders given. The day's fighting, including company movements. Commander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

tential importance. officers, men and equipment. Equipment 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 movements issued and received, routine returns, etc. All and the time of receipt or despatch is to be given.

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

AWM 95
[14/2/Nov 68]

SECRET

VE C 3118 (Adapted)

5 TABS

5 TABS

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. 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, marking of 3.

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ITEMS

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AWM 95
[14/2/Nov 68]

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 Stores Section

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

COMMANDING OFFICER..... Maj M.B. TINKLER.....

Place and Grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
VUNG TAU 299447	1 Nov 68	1700 H	SITREP S274 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. Lt Col LOGAN, Public Relations arrived. Camera check out AM, then PM film about 8 Christmas messages from our digs. Capt STEWART visited from 106 Fd Wksp. Arranged for Kerr and Cpl CLEMENT to swap over tomorrow. Visit by old and new Comd - brief. Learned via "eavesdropping" that Capt BARKER to replace Capt TOHILL. Capt TOHILL to replace Capt COCHRAN. Capt TOHILL not impressed. Msg came from Maj NYNEN DAAG AFV.	
" " "	2 Nov 68	1700 H	SITREP S275 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. Passed info re Capt BARKER to Maj HICKS-HALL and Lt HISLOP- neither impressed. Lt HISLOP has left a polite message for DAAG that Maj HICKS-HALL, DAEME and the Directorate refuse to accept posting Capt BARKER as SC"Q" as he has been specially trained on tank maint. Parade rehearsal 1515 hrs - few mishaps but none by 102.	
" " "	3 Nov	1700 H	No work. Formed up for parade 1015 hrs. Dress good. Marched down behind piper- looked and sounded very good. Parade good. No mistakes.	

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 Stores Section

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

COMMANDING OFFICER..... Maj M.B. TINKLER

Place and Grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			SITREP S275 fwd to HQ 1ALSG.	
VUNG TAU 299447	4 Nov 68	1700 Hrs	Farewell Lt Col GILMORE 1000 at St Kilda Pad. Last week submitted RTA proformas for Dec. Capt DITTMAR for 10th giving a 1 wk handover.	
			2Lt MARR for 17th - same day as Lt HOST supposed to arrive, handover does not appear to be essential. Message from Lt HISLOP - Maj TONKIN due SVN 17 Feb 69 as new OC. AFV RO gives 7 Nov as date 106 Fd Wksp assume responsibility for 113. M2a1/a2, and mov.	
" " "	5 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S276 fwd to HQ ALSG.	
" " "	6 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S277 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. Capt HARVEY stayed night as there was was no aeroplane to SAIGON .	
" " "	7 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S278 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. Five personnel to 106 Fd Wksp. Capt HARVEY to SAIGON. Capt DITTMAR left for DANANG Courier. 2Lt MARR to NUI DAT ref tank transporter modification. Produced table of new total pay rates affecting us. Lt HISLOP & Capt HARVEY arrived Wallaby 4 for handover visit.	
" " "	8 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S279, 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 Stores Section

MONTH AND YEAR..... Nov 68REFERENCE MAP..... XA442

COMMANDING OFFICER..... Maj M.B. TINKLER

Place and Grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
VUNG TAU 299447	9 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S280 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG.	
" " "	10 Nov 68	1700H	NTR	
" " "	11 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S281 fwd to 1 ALSG. Visit to 106 Fd Wksp by WO's SWANN, SMITH, DILLON & McCARTHY.	
" " "	12 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S282 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. Comd Inspection. RAAF (Flt Lt Comd 35 Sqn Eng 0) requested aid in manufacture of sling & mounting brackets for lift of Caribou onto HMAS Sydney - fixed.	
" " "	13 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S283 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. OC talks with Sgt's Mess & Regt Funds ref 106 Fd Wksp split of funds.	
" " "	14 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S284 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. Received Posting Orders for Offs(RAEME) None for Capt DITMAR. DADEME (Capt HARVEY) to chase up.	
" " "	15 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S285 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. COMAFV visit 1500-1700-"Best I have ever seen the workshops" Eight pers m/o to 106 Fd Wksp	
" " "	16 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S286 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. Received notification of 2 cans /day beer rations. Luckily OR's Club held 1 fortnight's supply at normal consumption.	

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 Stores Section

MONTH AND YEAR..Nov 68.....REFERENCE MAP..XA442.....

COMMANDING OFFICER...Maj M.B. TINKLER.....

Place and Grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
VUNG TAU 299447	17 Nov 68	1700H	NTR	
" " "	18 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S287 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. Capt AVERY R & R to Australia.	
" " "	19 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S288 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG.	
" " "	20 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S289 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG.	
" " "	21 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S290 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG.	
" " "	22 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S291 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG.	
" " "	23 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S292 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG.	
" " "	24 Nov 68	1700H	NTR.	
" " "	25 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S293 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG.	
" " "	26 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S294 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. Capt AVERY returned from R & R.	
" " "	27 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S295 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. Storm warning for winds 40-55 knts tonight. Amended storm warning - now 30 knots 0200 on 28th to 0400 then centre 1300 28th. up to 4 ins rain in next 24 hrs.	
" " "	28 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S296 fwd to HQ 1 ALSG. Storm was rather a washout, some rain.	
" " "	29 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S297 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 Stores Section

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

COMMANDING OFFICER... Maj M.B. TINKLER

Place and Grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
VUNG TAU 299447	30 Nov 68	1700H	SITREP S298 fwd to HQ 1ALSG. RAEME Offr's party prior to RAEME	
			Birthday.	