

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

**Royal Australian Electrical and  
Mechanical Engineers units**

**Item number: 14/2/47**

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

**Narrative**

**[1-30 Apr 1971]**



## COVERING LETTER

Reference No. 4/71

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)

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

# SECRET

**ORIGINAL**  
**~~DUPLICATE~~**

**Strike out where**  
**not applicable**

# COMMANDERS DIARY

OF

Unit or Formation 102 Fd Wksp : 102 Fd Wksp STORES SECT.

From 1 Apr 71

To 30 Apr 71

## 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

† 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 NII, 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

tential importance.  
o 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.

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

AWM 95  
[14/21 Apr 71]



## PART 3

## COMMAL DIARIES DISPOSAL

13. **Original Commander's Diary.** This is to be forwarded monthly, unless otherwise ordered, to 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:

- Cover (AF C 2119) (Adapted).
- Index as printed on cover.
- Narrative (AF C 2118) (Adapted).
- 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 space is required for a particular headquarters, formation or unit.

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

## TENTS

as well as map references, establishment, equipment

and orders given.

the day's fighting, including company movements.

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and to save work as much information as possible is to be entered in the diary and received, routine returns, etc. All and the time of receipt or dispatch is to be given.

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

(continued on back cover)

AWM 95  
[14/2/ Apr 71]



## COMMANDER'S DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION 102 Fd Wksp  
102 Fd Wksp Stores Sect  
COMMANDING OFFICER Maj M. J. FORD

MONTH and YEAR. APR 71 REFERENCE MAP XA 442

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj M. J. FORD

Serial	Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or Information	Reference to annex letter and/or enclosure No.
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
1	Vung Tau 299447	1 Apr	1700	NTR	
2	" " "	2 Apr	1700	NTR	
3	" " "	3 Apr	1515	FAREWELL VISIT TO UNIT by CGS. Lt Gen Sir Thomas DALY: VISIT TIMINGS SLIGHTLY DELAYED. Excellent Lunch at 1 ALSG OFFICERS' MESS. Gen Sir Thomas DALY spoke to MANY OF THE CRAFTSMEN OF THE UNIT.	
4	" " "	4 Apr	1700	NTR: SUNDAY 1/3 unit stand down till 1200 Remainder of unit rests from 1200.	
5	" " "	5 Apr	1700	Unit Mounts Clearing Ptl, Cpl LEESON & Four CFN. AO. SHERRYL: A CEMETARY WEST OF ALSG Perimeter. Known to the soldiers as "Tombstone Territory". PTL WAS UNEVENTFUL.	
6	" " "	6 Apr	1700	One Commercial "Dodge" 5 ton Truck part of consignment of 100 for Cambodia, sustained Damage in transit from Australia estimated 80 Man hrs work to Cabin, Tray, including painting: repaired in 10 Actual Hrs.	
7	" " "	7 Apr	1700	NTR	



AF - C2118 (Adapted)  
Revised Apr. 1969

UNIT/FORMATION 102 Fd Wksp  
102 Fd Wksp Stores Sect  
COMMANDING OFFICER M. J. FORD

COMMANDING OFFICER.....M. J. FORD

RCDIG1028365



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

MONTH and YEAR APR 71

REFERENCE MAP XA 442

UNIT/FORMATION 102 Fd Wksp  
102 Fd Wksp Stores Sect  
COMMANDING OFFICER Maj M. J. FORD

Serial	Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or Information	Reference to annex letter and/or enclosure No.
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
19	Vung Tau 299447	15 Apr	1015	Lt Brereton's Reinforcement, Lt Mick Downey arrived 1 Day late Charter held for repairs at DARWIN.	
20	" " "	15 Apr	1015	ADEME AFV Lt Col D. T. Rennie visited.	
21	" " "	15 Apr	1800	Unit Mounts Standing Patrol in AO MAGARET WO2 CHISNALL AND SIX CFN. At GR YS 307450 out NORTH GATE at 1930 RTU VIA NORTH GATE 160600H. FRIENDLY PTLS SIGHTED.	
22	" " "	16 Apr	1700	NTR	
23	" " "	17 Apr	1700	NTR	
24	" " "	18 Apr	1900	Kerr Committee visited 1 ALSG ALL OFFICERS Dined with Committee at 1 ALSG OFFICERS MESS.	
25	" " "	19 Apr	1200	Kerr Committee Visited Unit. Toured WKSP Area spoke to soldiers about conditions of service (.) Lunched with men in OR Dining Room.	
26	" " "	19 Apr	1515	Kerr Committee WATCHED PREPARATIONS FOR STANDING PATROL to be mounted by unit tonight. Briefing and Test firing of weapons.	



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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

AF - C2118 (Adapted)  
Revised Apr. 1969

## COMMANDER'S DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH and YEAR APR 71

REFERENCE MAP XA 442

UNIT/FORMATION 102 Fd Wksp  
102 Fd Wksp Stores Sect

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj M.J. FORD

Serial	Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or Information	Reference to annex letter and/or enclosure No.
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
27	Vung Tau				
	299447	19 Apr	1900	Unit mounts standing patrol AO ANITA Ref map Vung Tau 1:12500 L909 Series GR 303453. Out 1900hrs TRU 0600hrs next day. Capt Forde 6 OR. Bright moonlight. Other officers dined with Kerr Committee.	
28	" " "	20 Apr	1015	Visit ADEME AFV to 1500.	
29	" " "	21 "	1700	NTR	
30	" " "	22 "	1700	NTR	
31	" " "	23 "	1700	NTR	
32	" " "	24 "	1700	NTR	
33	" " "	25 "	0600	ANZAC Day. Celebrated quietly; dawn memorial service at St Kilda helipad; Unit stand-down.	
34	" " "	26 "	1545	Three unit members to 5 Coy RAASC for "Attitude Survey" conducted by Psychology Corps.	
35	" " "	27 "	1330	Visit Capt Noonan outgoing EME AFV, incoming EME Capt P.A.P. Ferguson and EME 1 ATF Capt T. Eisentrager.	
36	" " "	28 "	1700	NTR	
37	" " "	29 "	0900	OC, Capt Dyer(RNZEME) Lt Downey(QM) and Lt Brown(OC Stores Sect) visit 1 ATF	



## COMMANDER'S DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION.....102 FD WKSP  
102 FD WKSP STORES SECT

MONTH and YEAR APR 71

REFERENCE MAP XA 442

COMMANDING OFFICER.....MAJ M.J. FORD

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