

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Royal Australian Electrical and
Mechanical Engineers units

Item number: 14/4/12

**Item: 1 Detachment 1 Divisional
Supply and Transport Workshop**

Narrative

[1-31 Mar 1967]

COVERING LETTER

Reference No. STW3/67

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]

Appointment OC WKSP

(OC Unit or senior staff officer)

*Recd. 14-4-67
RT*

SECRET

ORIGINAL
~~DUPLICATE~~

Strike out where
not applicable

COMMANDERS DIARY

OF

Unit or Formation DET 1 DIV Sand T WKSP

From 1 MAR 67 To 31 MAR 67

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 to
- NIL to
- NIL to
- NIL to
- NIL to
- NIL to
- NIL to
- NIL to
- NIL to
- NIL to
- NIL to
- NIL to
- NIL to
- NIL to

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

† ~~RETAINED~~
† Despatched to
on N/A

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 III 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.
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and to save work as much information as possible is to
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and the time of receipt or despatch is to be given.

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

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 detachment) 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 "Z" will be entered on the cover. If additional enclosures are required for a particular headquarters, they are to be so marked.

The annexes form Annex "Z" TOP SECRET the document. It is to be prepared and despatched as follows:

TENTS

as well as (and references), establishments, equipment

of units given.

As day's fighting, including company movements

Commander will report to equipment, tactics, organization

essential importance

> officers, men and equipment.

urgent captured.

employed in the time not accounted for. The type of

and to save work as much information as possible is to be made based and manner, routine returns, etc. All and the time of receipt or despatch is to be given.

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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION DET 1 DIV S&TWLP

MONTH AND YEAR MAR 1967

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER CAPT J.G. DEMETROUKIS

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	1 MAR		There was plenty of work. Was in the middle of making out reports for DOS's & DEME's visit, later this week when I had to go & be prosecuting officer on the local courts martial. Was told at 1000 hrs and the case started at 1400 hrs. <i>flp</i>	
	2 MAR		Continued the work in the wksp and I went back to the law business. Ended the day with getting my first conviction. The native contractor started to work on our B ₁ & B ₂ store huts ^{concrete floors} . We were at last told about our numbers going home on particular flights. As it is nearly midnight I've left telling the troops until tomorrow <i>flp</i>	
	3 MAR		STILL A LOT OF WORK CONTINUING. Waited for the DOS until 1500 hrs. Was told he is ^{now not} coming. He then came after all after both the OC 1004 and I went to other jobs. Courts Martial was adjourned until 6 MAR <i>flp</i>	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION *DET 2 DIV SGT WKS 03*

MONTH AND YEAR *MAR 67*

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER *CAPT JG DEMETROVICS*

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	<i>4 MAR</i>		<p>A very busy day again. Let the fellows off a bit early so that they could clean up & meet the visiting Aust entertainment team who was^{are} guests in the canteen this afternoon.</p> <p>The DEME arrived about 1030 (as proposed) and we spoke and discussed points for about 2 hours. Main points brought out were that the number in the workshop compared to the task were too few; at this stage the whole workshop would be moving back to England, a DA DEME is a most desirable requirement and that he was quite satisfied with the effort that the workshop has been producing since arrival, especially under all the difficulties which were quite apparent to him. <i>flg'd</i> Rec concert was very good. <i>flg'd</i></p>	
	<i>5 MAR</i>		<p>Had a quiet day and a rest day. <i>flg'd</i></p>	
	<i>6 MAR</i>		<p>A very busy day again today. The counts continued. <i>flg'd</i></p>	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR

MAR 1967

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION DET 1 DIV Sqn T WKSP

COMMANDING OFFICER CAPT J.E. DEMETROVICS

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	7 MAR		The VM sent to TF (1 Fd Sqn WKSP) came back today. The work here required him to come back. All the office & stores area concreting is completed. JlyD.	
	8 MAR		The Engineers started excavating more sand from the wksp to make room for the WKSP shelter's concrete floor. Work continued as normal. JlyD.	
	9 MAR		The carpenters arrived & began the stores hut frame-work. There is still plenty of work for everyone. JlyD.	
	10 MAR		We got our final injections required for RTA. Work was plentiful all day long. JlyD.	
	11 MAR		Busy all day on repairs. JlyD.	
	12 MAR		Worked half of the day cleaning up for the CGS's visit due this week. JlyD.	

This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF-C 2119 (Adapted).

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION *DET 1 DIV 1 T WUSP*

MONTH AND YEAR *MAR 1967*

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER *APT JG DEMETROVIC*

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	<i>13 MAR</i>		<i>Did a lot of repairs and work today again. Engineers continued work also and progress on the ^{building} stressing quite well. JGD.</i>	
	<i>14 MAR</i>		<i>Continued work as normal. JGD.</i>	
	<i>15 MAR</i>		<i>Normal amount of work today. Pay day and conference again today. JGD.</i>	
	<i>16 MAR</i>		<i>Normal days work done today. The buildings are progressing but not as fast as initially. JGD.</i>	
	<i>17 MAR</i>		<i>Continued work as normal. JGD.</i>	
	<i>18 MAR</i>		<i>No leave anywhere because of the plague threat in VUNG TAU. Continued work as normal. Had the opening (official) of the CO's canteen. It was quite an enjoyable night. JGD.</i>	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION DET IDIV 5 WKSP

MONTH AND YEAR

MAR 1967

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER CAPT J G DEMETRIE

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	<u>19 MAR</u>		<u>Worked in the morning on wksp improvements and had the afternoon free again. fleyd</u>	
	<u>20 MAR</u>		<u>Had the 10% theatre increment soldier march in today. Still have had no replacement for the MED EVAC REC MECH. So I'm only up to strength again in actual fact. Work continued as normal. fleyd.</u>	
	<u>21 MAR</u>		<u>Continued a normal day's work fleyd.</u>	
	<u>22 MAR</u>		<u>A normal day's work. Had our weekly conference, with only a few points of interest. fleyd.</u>	
	<u>23 MAR</u>		<u>A normal day's work. Had the results of the soldiers' B₁ & B₂ exams from 101 Fd WKSP, and they all did quite well. fleyd.</u>	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION *DET 2 DIV S&T W&S P*

MONTH AND YEAR *MAR 1967*

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER *CAPT J.G. DEMETROVIC*

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	<i>24 MAR</i>		<i>A fairly busy "Good Friday". Some of the religious significance of today was lost but there were church services for the different denominations. ffd</i>	
	<i>25 MAR 67</i>		<i>A Normal day's work. The form-work for the workshop hut is still under progress. ffd</i>	
	<i>26 MAR</i>		<i>Had a day off from work, I was Orderly Officer instead. ffd</i>	
	<i>27 MAR</i>		<i>Got our shelves building materials, arc-weld for security bars & materials for partitions in stores and office buildings. Started making shelves. ffd</i>	
	<i>28 MAR</i>		<i>Continued work in new sheds and also on vehicles. ffd</i>	
	<i>29 MAR</i>		<i>B₂ store moved into new area. Workshop building form-work is finished but native workers have disappeared for some reason. ffd</i>	
	<i>30 MAR</i>		<i>Everybody is busy again. We even worked at night this week. ffd</i>	
	<i>31 MAR</i>		<i>All the shelving for B₂ store is now ready. It'll move in tomorrow. ffd</i>	