

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

**Royal Australian Electrical and
Mechanical Engineers units**

Item number: 14/4/13

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

Narrative

[1-30 Apr 1967]

COVERING LETTER

Reference No. STW 4/67

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)

Appointments

(OC Unit or senior staff officer)

PART 2

AF C 2119 (Adapted)
Revised Jun. 1965

SECRET

ORIGINAL
DUPLICATE

Strike out where
not applicable

COMMANDERS DIARY

OF

Unit or Formation

From

To

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

[illegible]

† NIL
† ~~RETAINED~~
† ~~Despatched to~~

on NIA

* 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 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

ITEMS

es as well as map references), establishment, equipment

d orders given.

he day's fighting, including company movements.

commander 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
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and the time of receipt or despatch is to be given.

he 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 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 places shown on the cover. If there are no annexes for an annex Nil, will be entered on the cover. If additional annexes are considered for a particular headquarters, they are to be numbered as follows:

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

INDEX

as well as map references), establishment, equipment

and orders given.

the day's fighting, including company movements

annexes with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

of tactical importance

of officers, men and equipment.

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and to save work as much information as possible is to be included in the index, including routine returns, etc. All and the time of receipt or despatch is to be given.

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(continued on back cover)

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR

APR 1967

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION DET 1 DIV S&T WKSP

COMMANDING OFFICER CAPT J.G. DEMETROVICS

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	1 APR		Moved the B2-store into new building. A very good week's work was produced by all members of the workshop flyd.	
	2 APR		A well deserved day off was enjoyed by all, except for essential duties personnel flyd.	
	3 APR		Continuation of improvement of stores huts and also floor work was carried out. flyd. Requested 21/C of 5 COY to see if old Sgt & OC of next Det he sent up earlier. I do not consider a 2 day's hand-over period is sufficient flyd.	
	4 APR		Continued work as normal flyd.	
	5 APR		Conference today, otherwise work in the workshop and the stores is continuing flyd.	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION *DET 1 DIVS WITWKS P*

MONTH AND YEAR *APR 1967*

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER *CAPT. J. G. DEMETROVICS*

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	<i>6 APR</i>		<i>A Normal day's work today. fly D</i>	
	<i>7 APR</i>		<i>Continued work as normal. The native contractor has started to lay the concrete for the workshop building. fly D</i>	
	<i>8 APR</i>		<i>Normal day's work. We have started putting in the partitions in the office building. fly D</i>	
	<i>9 APR</i>		<i>Had a rest day. We had a Bar-B-Q on the beach as this was the last weekend we will have with the whole workshop ^{together in Vietnam.} It was an enjoyable day all round. fly D</i>	
	<i>10 APR</i>		<i>Continued work as normal again. fly D</i>	
	<i>11 APR</i>		<i>Had a small accident and a soldier was burnt from flames when our generator burst into flames. Otherwise a normal day. fly D</i>	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION *DET 1 DIV 5 and T WLSA*

MONTH AND YEAR *APR 1967*

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER *CDT J G DEMETRONICS*

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	<i>12 APR</i>		<i>Had pay-day and our last Conference as 1 COY today. A lot of work on the Offices and stores is going on all normal amount of workshops work is being carried out as well. JGD</i>	
	<i>13 APR</i>		<i>Continued work as normal JGD</i>	
	<i>14 APR</i>		<i>A normal day's work. Fixed all the extra lighting required for the arrival of 5 COY as from tomorrow JGD</i>	
	<i>15 APR</i>		<i>Did a lot of office building today and a normal amount of vehicle repairs JGD</i>	
	<i>16 APR</i>		<i>Worked until lunch-time and had the afternoon off. Met the OC of 5 COY. JGD</i>	
	<i>17 APR</i>		<i>Inspected 6 new Subaru yard dump trucks. Only a few things wrong with them. Continued maintenance on workshop area. JGD</i>	

1 B P Coy-275/65-55m

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION *DET 1 DIV SALT W. HSP*

MONTH AND YEAR *APR 1967*

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER *CAPT J G DEMETROVICS*

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	<i>18 APR</i>		<i>Continued work as normal ffgd</i>	
	<i>19 APR</i>		<i>Had our first conference with 5 COY. Just a few 5 COY policy matters were discussed. The Voc 5 COY had a look at the workshop set-up and he seemed satisfied with it in all respects. ffgd</i>	
	<i>20 APR</i>		<i>A normal day's work carried out today. ffgd</i>	
	<i>21 APR</i>		<i>Stores are ready for handover stock take in both stores. Although the whsp shelter is only partly finished, as much use as possible is being made of it to gain more space. Carried out a lat repairs on the new petrol. pl Egypt which is arriving from Australia. ffgd</i>	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR APR 1967

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION DET 1 DIV S and TWSP

COMMANDING OFFICER CAPT J. G. DEMETROVICS

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	22 APR		Work as normal today. The only thing exceptional which occurred was that my replacement arrived today at 1300 hrs and also the ORD Stores Cell Sgt. They are CAPT R. BROWN and SGT JSULLIVAN. At least two of us feel more secure about going home now on the 10 MAY. JYD	
	23 APR		Had a rest day today JYD	
	24 APR		Work as normal in the workshop. Still not too much at the present moment. Started the hand-over stacktake. Nearly finished the B, and the Q (Sub account) account. JYD	
	25 APR		Was a working ANZAC day and a fair amount was needed to be done. Had the PALS 6/1 AFF sports and TF won 3 out the 5 events. JYD	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION *DET 1 DIV S&T WKS P.*

MONTH AND YEAR *APR 1967*

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER *CAPT J.G. DEMETRONICS*

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	<i>26 APR</i>		<i>Work is starting to increase again now that the convoys have started to go regularly again. The stocktake counting is completed and only the paper work is being checked now. JGD</i>	
	<i>26 APR</i>		<i>Had our RTA medicals + blood tests today. JGD</i>	
	<i>27 APR</i>		<i>The handover/thereover papers are ready for signature + on both B₁ + B₂ accounts, on a 100% count, we ended up with NIL discrepancies. This is a very good indication on how well the two storemen worked during the whole year. JGD</i>	
	<i>28 APR</i>		<i>2½ Ton Dumptrucks are at a premium again as the parts supply has lost another battle with the number of vehicles grounded. We started our final anti-malarial course today. JGD</i>	
	<i>29 APR</i>		<i>Continued work + everybody is quite busy. JGD</i>	
	<i>30 APR</i>		<i>A fairly quiet day although work went on today. JGD</i>	