

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Miscellaneous units

Item number: 17/1/11

Item: 1 Australian Civil Affairs Unit

Narrative

Annexes

[1-31 Mar 1968]

COVERING LETTER

Reference No. 11

To: OIC, Military History Section, AHQ.

1. I enclose Commanders Diary (AF C 2118) (Adapted) as indicated at Part 2.

3 MAY 1968
Receipt handed

Please return receipt below.

(Signature) *Whately* Lt Col

Appointment CO 1 Aust CA Unit
(OC Unit or senior staff officer)

SECRET

ORIGINAL
~~DUPLICATE~~

Strike out where
not applicable

COMMANDERS DIARY

OF

Unit or Formation First Australian Civil Affairs Unit

From 1 Mar 68 To 31 Mar 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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† 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 [blank] 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

CONTENTS

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

tential importance.
o officers, men and equipment.
ment captured.
mployed in the time not accounted for. The type of

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

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

(continued on back cover)

AWM 95
[17/11/Mar 68]

VE C 3118 (Vqubteq)

SECRET

LVBL 3

COVERING LETTER

LVBL 1

DISPOSAL

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

AWM 95
[17/11/Mar 68]

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR March 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 Aust C Unit

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col K.W. Latchford.

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	1 Mar 68		Negotiations with HQ 1 ATF concerning the handover of responsibilities of operation of sand bag filling point GR YS401629 by unit to another unit commenced.	
	2 Mar 68		Unit informed of delivery of SIX (6) Australian ploughs to 2 AOD for user trials in SVN by selected local farmers in PHUOC TUY Province.	
	4-6 Mar 68		Assistance on planning and preparation of site plans given to Province Public Works Chief by SORE 3 (Electrical) HQ AFV. Projects are extension of electrification in PHUOC LE, replacement of electrical reticulation in LONG DIEN (TET offensive damage) and completion of electrical reticulation in BINH GIA GR YS4877.	
	5 Mar 68		Survey of old refugee hamlet of LONG TUAN commenced with aim of realigning street layout and preparing a formal layout plan for future development.	
	10-11 Mar 68		Discussions with Aid Counsellor Embassy SAIGON on Civic Action Projects. Land clearing recommenced at AP SUOI NGHE to produce sufficient acreage of farming kind for hamlet operations.	
	12 Mar 68		Negotiations on refugee rehousing programme for TET offensive victims continue with Province officials and CORDS personnel BARIA.	
	13-16 Mar 68		Assistance by unit and 1 Aust TF Hygiene Sec to Public Health Service in dusting operation at PHUOC TINH against plague outbreak.	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR March 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 Aust Coy 1st

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col K.W. Latchford

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	16 Mar 68		Land clearing halted at AP SUOI NGHE due to operational commitments on OP 'PINAROO'. Total of 600 acres cleared to date.	
	18 Mar 68		AFV Civic Action Plan 1968-69 received. Engineer recce vehicle containing 3 officers returning from BARIA fired on in HOA LONG by 1 VC sniper. Estimate 60 rds AK47 fired. Vehicle hit by 1 rd no cas.	
	20 Mar 68		Assistance to Public Health Service in dusting operation at HOI MY against plague outbreak.	
	22 Mar 68		Discussions with Aid Counsellor Australian Embassy SAIGON on plan for refugee rehousing programme PHUOC LE and LONG DIEN. This is special EA relief project to be administered by this unit. Change of command Lt Col J.F. McDONAGH to Lt Col K.W. LATCHFORD.	
	22 Mar 68		Construction commenced on relief housing BARIA by unit personnel and party from 7 RAR. Initial target BARIA is 36 houses.	
	25 -26 Mar 68		Cordon and search by 2 RAR OP 'ASHGROVE TRAM' at LONG HAI. CA team provided assistance for screening phase 26 Mar 68. Land reform conference held at AP SUOI NGHE to consider requirements for survey and land title release to villagers.	
	29 Mar 68		Liaison visit by CA officer USNS 'CORPUS CHRISTI BAY' on possible MEDCAP and DENTCAP	

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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)
Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR March 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 Aust CA Unit

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col K.W. Latchford

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	<u>30 Mar 68</u>		<p>participation by members of 1st TC Bn. Arrangements made for unit to accept MEDCAP/DENTCAP missions to AP PHUOC TINH and LON SON Island on weekly basis.</p> <p>Commencement of Philippines Rice Project with trial planting at selected padi HOA LONG.</p> <p>Aim is to produce high yield crop from existing acreage available.</p>	

J1

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

1 Australian Civil Affairs Unit
1 Australian Task Force
NUI DAT

R176A/1/7(1)

6 April 1968

CIVIL AFFAIRS - 1 AUSTRALIAN CIVIL AFFAIRS UNIT
MONTHLY REPORT - MARCH 1968
PHUOC TUY PROVINCE AND VUNG TAU SPECIAL ZONE

1. The monthly report for March 1968 is submitted covering the following:

- a. Construction - see Annex A.
- b. Medical - see Annex B.
- c. Education - see Annex C.
- d. Commodity distribution - see Annex D.
- e. Miscellaneous - see Annex E.

2. Change of Command

Handover of command of 1 Aust CA Unit from Lt Col J.F. McDonagh to Lt Col K.W. Latchford was formally effected on 20 Mar 68. Lt Col J.F. McDonagh departed for Australia on reposting on 25 Mar 68.

3. Assessment of Future Projects

No change to monthly report February 1968.

4. Estimate of Reaction of Recipients

Favourable comment continues to be made on the standard of professional ability and thoroughness displayed by Australian servicemen and units in Civic Action participation. Action by 1 Australian Task Force Hygiene Unit in a recent plague prevention programme has drawn special mention by villagers concerned.

5. Projects Closed in March 1968

<u>Project No</u>	<u>Final Cost \$VN</u>	<u>Uncosted AF G982Es</u>	<u>Date Completed</u>
28	57356	CA135 B17350 CA138 B17348 CA139 B17349	30 Mar 68
55	171167	CA88 A104894 CA89 A104854 CA90 A104896 CA122 B16132 CA165 B15829 CA166 B15828 CA168 B16183	6 Mar 68
81	357240		18 Mar 68
105	32750		16 Mar 68
119	208502		18 Mar 68
V153	46670		18 Mar 68

K.W. Latchford
(K.W. LATCHFORD)
Lieutenant Colonel
Commanding Officer

1 Australian Task Force
1 Australian Task Force
1 Australian Task Force
1 Australian Task Force

April 1968

REPORT ON THE VISIT TO PHUOC TUY PROVINCE AND VUNG TAU SPECIAL ZONE

The monthly report for March 1968 is submitted covering the following:

- 1. Construction - see Annex A
- 2. Medical - see Annex B
- 3. Education - see Annex C
- 4. Commodity distribution - see Annex D
- 5. Miscellaneous - see Annex E

1. Overview of Command

Transfer of command of 1 Aust CA Unit from Lt Col R.F. McDermott to Lt Col R.W. Latchford was formally effected on 20 Mar 68. Lt Col R.F. McDermott departed for Australia on reporting on 27 Mar 68.

2. Assessment of Future Prospects

The change to monthly report February 1968.

3. Ratings of Report of Activities

Favourable comment continues to be made on the standards of professional ability and thoroughness displayed by Australian servicemen and units in Civic Action participation. Action by 1 Australian Task Force Hygiene Unit in a recent plague prevention programme has drawn special mention by villagers concerned.

4. Reports Closed in March 1968

Report No	Final Date	Unreconciled	Date Completed
28	27356	GA137 GA138 GA139	30 Mar 68
29	177107	CA88 CA89 CA90 CA122 CA123 CA124 CA125 CA126 CA127	

Distribution:

- HQ AFV (2)
- HQ 1 ATF
- HQ 1 ALSG
- Senior Province Advisor Phuoc Tuy Province
- Senior Advisor Vung Tau Special Zone
- Commanders Diary (4)
- File
- Spare (6)

(Lt Col R.W. Latchford)
Lieutenant Colonel
Commanding Officer

MONTHLY REPORT - CONSTRUCTION

1. PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

PROJECT No	LOCATION/DESCRIPTION	STAGE OF COMPLETION	LOCAL LABOUR EMPLOYED	PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED
82	Province/Well and Pump repairs	Continuing	10 labourers	NIL
97	BaRia/3 classrooms to High School	50%	Local contract	NIL
178	BaRia/PF/RF married quarters	20%	Local PF/RF labour	NIL
105	Suoi Nghe/Roads and Drainage	100%	15 labourers	NIL
119	Long Huon/ 6 seat Toilet	100%	Local Contract	NIL
115	Long Son Repair to school	20%	Local labourers	NIL
V135	Vung Tau Playground Equipment	50%	Local contract	NIL
V92	Vung Tau Supply materials for PF & RF Housing	65%	Local labour & PF members	NIL
V154	Vung Tau Erection fence Social Welfare Centre.	30%	Local contract	NIL

2. RECONNAISSANCE OF FUTURE PROJECTS

PROJECT No	LOCATION	TYPE / DESCRIPTION	COMMENTS
121	BaRia	High School Science Block	Awaiting Tenders Quote
122	BaRia	High School Library Block	" " "
130	Nu Long Dien	Construction 4 School rooms	Awaiting approval
131	Nu Phouc Hai	Construction 5 School rooms	" "
132	Hoa Long (Ap Bac)	Construction 3 School rooms	" "
133	Hoa Long (Ap Dong)	Construction 2 School rooms	" "
134	Lo Voi	Construction 2 School rooms	" "
135	Huong Giang	Construction 3 seat toilet	" "
140	Huong Son	Construction 3 seat toilet and sepearte well	" "
141	Thu Luu	Construction 3 seat toilet and seperate well	" "
143	Long Tam	Construction 4 seat toilet and seperate well	" "
145	Phouc Nguyen	Construction 3 seat toilet and seperate well	" "
161	Province	Construction of school furniture	" "
V111	Vung Tau	Supply material for construction PF Post Thang Nhi	" "
V109	Vung Tau	Supply material for construction PF Post Water Plant	" "
V155	Vung Tau	Erection of Fence Lam Son Vung Tau	Awaiting Quotes

MONTHLY REPORT - MEDICAL

1. Number of Medical Personnel involved
 - 2 Australian Doctors
 - 4 Australian Medics
 - 2 Vietnamese Medics
 - 1 United States Medic
2. General Examination
 - a. Total 3249
 - b. Comments Main ailments encountered were:
 - (1) Pestis Minor in Hoi My and Phouc Tinh
 - (2) Anaemia.
 - (3) Hookworm.
 - (4) Respiratory Disease.
 - (5) Skin diseases.
 - (6) Dental caries.
 - (7) Diarrhoea common in all villages this month.
3. Medical Evacuations
 - a. General
 - (1) No 12
 - (2) Comments (diagnosis and possible treatment)
Severe Anaemia, Asthma, Peptic Ulcer, Dysentery.
 - b. Surgical
 - (1) No. 19
 - (2) Comments (type of surgery required)
Fractures, Herniae, Hydroceles, TB Spine, Multiple abscesses
appendicitis.
4. Follow-up
 - a. Regular routine Medcaps continue in all villages and hamlets.
 - b. At the request of XUYEN MCC subsector the RF post on SONG RAI river at Route 23 has been added to the programme.
 - c. As from 10 April 1968 a medical team from the USNS CORPUS CHRISTIE BAY (1 Doctor, 1 dentist, corpsmen) will conduct regular fortnightly Medcaps at PHOUC TINH and LONG SON villages.

5. Assessment (Reaction by local population, assessment of general health and public hygiene, overall improvement since previous MEDCAPS, suitability for MEDCAP sites)

Following up the discovery of Bubonic Plague (Pestis Minor Type) in PHOUC TINH and HOI MY, both villages were sprayed with DDT - the Vietnamese Department of Public Health PHOUC - LE has been assisted in a Province wide plague vaccination program. Australian voice aircraft and VIS have played a large part in advising local population of the advantage of vaccination and DDT spraying. Response highly successful.

MONTHLY REPORT - EDUCATION

1. Commodity Distribution
 - a. Equipment
 - (1) 600 Library books (Van Kiep Library) Source Local purchase and American Cultural Centre.
 - (2) 300 water flasks (large) Source 1 Aust CA Unit
 - (3) 400 School flasks (small) Source 1 Aust CA Unit
 - (4) 9 crates children clothing (new) Source 1 Aust CA Unit
 - b. Instructional Material
 - (1) 2 crates dolls (for child care classes - Grades 2&1) Source 1 Aust CA Unit
 - (2) 5 crates manipulation Toys (Grade 5 & preschool) Source 1 Aust CA Unit
 - (3) 14 crates miscellaneous toys to make teaching kits. Source 1 Aust CA Unit
2. Construction
 - a. 100 metres of road at PHOUC LE Technical School. Sea Bee labour and equipment, AIK funds. (50% complete)
 - b. Flagpole base at PHOUC LE Technical School. Local labour, AIK funds (100% complete)
3. Repair/Maintenance
 - (1) Repair of mortar damage - CHAU VAN TIEP. High School - BARIA. (funded AIK)
 - (2) Repair of bullet holes - Technical School. (funded AIK)
4. English Classes

Nil this month.
5. Special Tasks
 - a. General assistance to Province Education Officials on damage assessment and channels for repair (TET offensive)
 - b. Guidance for Elementary Education Chief on contractual procedures for planned construction of 11 classrooms, and 11 toilet/water resource units at elementary schools.
 - c. Initiation of Vietnamese (via Education Chief) decisions as to site location of planned structures.

- d. Assistance to GVN Educators on sporting equipment and courts.
- e. Monitory efforts to initiate RD hamlet school construction.
- f. Site selection (with GVN Educator and District Chief) of replacement school BAU TRAM, LONG DIEM.
- g. Initiation of attempts to get under way a Refugee Vocational Training Scheme.
- h. Advise to GVN Educators on construction of school Teaching Aid kits (commodity distribution).

5. Comments

Unable to predict when English classes will start. 1 Aust CA Unit is awaiting the arrival of 2 teachers. The local high school have serious staff problems which could be partially eased by the arrival of an English teacher.

MONTHLY REPORT - COMMODITY DISTRIBUTION

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>
Plastic bags	5 boxes
Male clothing	3 boxes
Female clothing	4 boxes
Childrens clothing	8 boxes
Childrens toys	11 boxes
Assorted cereals	126 boxes
Milk sterelised	96 boxes
Sugar granulated	89 bags (70 lbs ea)
Assorted foodstuffs	418 Cartons
Flour	61 bags (70 lbs ea)
Plasticware	16 boxes

MONTHLY REPORT - MISCELLANEOUS

1. Phuoc Tuy Province

- a. Cordon and Search Operations A CA team from this unit accompanied Task Force elements during operations at LONG HAI on 25/26 Mar 68.
- b. Liaison Activities
- (1) Discussions with Lands Service, CORDS and local authorities concerning survey of farming land and method of allocation at AP SUOI NGHE. Plan accepted and detailed survey of land commenced.
 - (2) Delivery of Australian Ploughs made to Province Agricultural Service and user trial tests will be held when ground is soft enough for ploughing.
 - (3) Commencement of Phillipines Rice (IR-8) experiment with germination and planting in test padi near HUO LONG.
 - (4) Commodity distribution made to needy families in BARIA and to Old Peoples Home. Also refugee hamlet LONG TOAN. Individual parcels distributed to families at LONG TOAN, LONG SON and SUOI NGHE.
 - (5) Local purchase of charcoal and bamboo by some units of 1 Australian Task Force arranged at SUOI NGHE.
 - (6) Delivery of Maternity Kits to Public Health Service.
 - (7) Discussions held with Province Health Chief on permanent staffing of Dispensary at AP SUOI NGHE.
- c. Information Surveys - Phuoc Tuy Province and Districts
- (1) Continuation of preparation of information surveys of Province down to hamlet level. Surveys on XUYEN MOC, LONG HAI, PHUOC DINH and LONG HUON completed.
- d. Activities of Units of 1 ATF
- (1) Units continue to assist in their areas of responsibility wherever possible.
 - (2) Land clearing assistance by 1 Fd Sqn at AP SUOI NGHE from 10-16 Mar 68. Approximately 400 acres now cleared of timber and scrub for farming allocations.
 - (3) Commodity distribution by 161 Fd Bty RNZA, V and W Coys 2 RAR/NZ, A Sqn 3 Cav Regt and 4 Fd Regt conducted at AP SUOI NGHE.
 - (4) Construction teams from 7 RAR were employed on erection of TET refugee relief housing in PHUOC LE under supervision of RAE tradesmen of 1 Aust CA Unit.
 - (5) 1 ATF Hygiene Section conducted an anti plague dusting programme in PHUOC TINH and HOI MY at the request of the Public Health Chief.

2. Vung Tau Special Zone

- a. Dispensary A SVN midwife nurse attends daily from 0800 - 1600 hrs under arrangements made by Department of Health.
- b. Liaison Activities
- (1) School uniforms for the Buddhist Chan Kien School were distributed on 3 Mar 68.

/(2).

- (2) Assistance to Public Works Department was arranged with the provision of 1 ALSG vehicles for rubbish collection in VUNG TAU City.
- (3) Assistance to Department of Health by 8 Fd Amb in the plague immunisation programme was conducted.

CONFIDENTIAL

M 1

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

1 Aust CA Unit
NUI DAT

Mar 68

SAP

COMBAT OPERATIONS AFTER ACTION REPORT

CIVIL AFFAIRS

Name of Operation

1. OP ASHGROVE TRAM.

Date of Operation

2. 25/26 Mar 68.

Location

3. LONG HAI VILLAGE at YS 446495.

Control Headquarters

4. HQ 2 RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Bn.

Reporting Officer

5. Capt I.G. Menzies, LO, 1 Aust CA Unit.

Tas. Organisation

6. Team 1 Aust CA Unit consisting of LO's (2), Driver/Sig, Interpreters (2 - Vietnamese and French).

Supporting Forces

7. NIL.

Intelligence

8. Annex A to 2 RAR Op O 6/68 dated 25 Mar 68.

Mission

9. Advise HQ 2 RAR/NZ gp. on civil affairs matters before and during the cordon and search of LONG HAI.

Concept of Operations

10. a. Effect liaison between HQ 2 RAR/NZ gp. and Province, District and Village Officials.
b. Assist 2 RAR/NZ by provision of tentage for cover in waiting and dispersal areas.
c. See to welfare of inhabitants during screening process.

Execution

11. 24 Mar 68

1030 hrs L.O. attended briefing with HQ 2 RAR at Horseshoe.

12. 25 Mar 68

- a. 0900 hrs LO attended 0 Gp at HQ 2 RAR.
- b. 1000 hrs 2 x Mx 5 trucks allocated to 1 Aust CA Unit for transport of stores. 1 x 200 gall. water trailer towed.
- c. 1315 hrs. 1 Aust CA Unit vehicles RV at convoy departure point in 2 RAR area.
- d. 1415 hrs convoy departed NUI DAT.
- e. 1515 hrs arrived LONG HAI.
- f. 1530 hrs Recce with Engr. Officer and OC Screening Centre re layout of screening area.
- g. 1600 hrs liaised with local National Police Chief and Village Chief. Arrangements made for Village Officials to RV at Village Office at 260730 hrs.
- h. 1830 hrs occupied night defensive positions allocated by OC Screening Centre. Members of team stood radio watch of one (1) hour each during night.

13. 26 Mar 68

- a. 0630 hrs stand to.
- b. 0645 hrs allocated work force of six (6) personnel from RAASC drivers for erection of tentage in dispersal area.
- c. 0730 hrs RV with Village Chief at Village Office. Village Officials assembled and transported to screening centre.
- d. 0845 hrs District Chief, Senior District Advisor, Province Deputy National Police Chief and Village Chief introduced to CO, 2 RAR. Officials briefed by L.O., 1 Aust CA Unit.
- e. 0930 hrs above-listed personnel introduced to Comd 1 ATF.
- f. 1000-1300 hrs General supervision of dispersal area, re-supply of water and erection of tentage.
- g. 1330 hrs L.O. interviewed Village Chief re administration of hamlets and village, general survey of village.
- h. 1615 hrs villagers released from dispersal area. Dismantling of tentage, work force supplied from a Platoon 7 RAR.
- i. 1650 hrs departed LONG HAI in convoy.
- j. 1745 hrs arrived NUI DAT

Results

14. a. Control of the villagers in the waiting area presented no problems. Some difficulty in control experienced when personnel from MIKE FORCE were given permission to remove their families from the dispersal area.
- b. All district and Village Officials were fully briefed; quite a lot of useful information was gathered from these personnel.

Administrative Matters

15. Nothing to report.

Special Equipment / Techniques

16. The hand-held loud-hailer proved useful. It should form part of the equipments for all Civil Affairs Liaison Teams.

Commander Analysis

17. a. The site chosen for the screening centre did not lend itself to a symmetrical or simple layout. High paddy bunds and existing fences interfered with layout design and vehicle movement.
- d. Water resupply was not continuous and did not keep up with demands. Due to the nature of the terrain it was not possible to locate the water trailers in the respective waiting and dispersal areas.
- c. Some difficulty was experienced in **obtaining work** parties to carry out tasks in the waiting and dispersal areas.
- d. There was not a recognisable central control HQ for the overall supervision of the screening centre. At times it was difficult to locate the OIC.
- e. No opportunity was given for the dumping of CA tentage prior to the erection of the fencing, with a resultant wastage in time and labour when stores had to be carried by hand.

Recommendations

18. a. Members of 1 Aust CA Unit regularly visit every village in the Phouc Tuy Province. As a result the unit has an excellent working knowledge of village layout, administration, organisation and security. It is felt that greater use could be made of this knowledge by units responsible for cordon and search operations. In particular, the unit could be consulted on the possible location of screening centre, means of approach to the village, local security, the attitude of the people and the location of the various public buildings and military sites/ compounds.
- b. There should be vehicle access to the waiting and dispersal areas to allow for water resupply by trailer or tanker. This is also necessary if a MEDCAP/DENTCAP is required.
- c. Tentage used for shade in the waiting and dispersal areas should be pre-positioned before wiring is complete.
- d. A CA team normally provided for this type of operation is capable only of effecting liaison and providing advice and limited supervision of work. A work party of section size is required for such tasks as location and erection of tentage, control of water issue points etc in the waiting and holding areas. This party should be controlled by the CA LO

/e.

e. A requirement for a screening area control HQ is evident. This should include OIC screening area, representatives from **Div Int**, and Psyops and be **responsible** to the force commander for the supervision and operation of the area.

f. An investigation is being undertaken by CA to devise a more efficient method of preparing shade coverings to achieve easy erection and recovery and economy in transport requirements. Results will be advised separately.

K.W. Latchford

(K.W. LATCHFORD)

Lt Col

oo

Distribution

1 ATF (6)
Comd Diary (4)
L.O. (2)
File

2. A requirement for a screening area control is evident. This should include OIC screening area representatives from the area, and papers and be responsible to the force commander for the supervision and operation of the area.

3. An investigation is being undertaken by CA to devise a more efficient method of preparing shade coverings to allow easy erection and recovery and economy in transport requirements. Results will be advised.

Handwritten notes:
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(R.W. LATIMER)
Lt Col
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Distribution
1 AFM (6)
Comd Gp (4)
L.O. (2)
File