

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Miscellaneous units

Item number: 17/1/14

Item: 1 Australian Civil Affairs Unit

Narrative

Annexes

[1-30 Jun 1968]

COVERING LETTER

Reference No. 14

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)

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 Jun 68

To 30 Jun 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

..... to

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† 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 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.

ment captured.

employed in the time not accounted for. The type of

and to save work as much information as possible is to be 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.

(continued on back cover)

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.

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR Jun 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 Aust CA Unit
Lt Col K.W. LATCHFORD
COMMANDING OFFICER

| Place and grid reference | Date | Time | Event or information | Annex letter and enclosure number |
|--------------------------|-----------|------|---|-----------------------------------|
| PHUOC TUY PROVINCE | 8 Jun 68 | | Visit by Australian Prime Minister Hon J. GORTON to 1 ATF. Discussion and informal briefing by CO and military civic action activities. | |
| | 10 Jun 68 | | Lt Col LATCHFORD resumed duty as CO following detachment to HQ 1 ATF. | |
| | 11 Jun 68 | | TET Housing reconstruction suspended in LONG DIEN due to VC activity in village. | |
| | 13 Jun 68 | | Visit by Chap Gen McCULLOUGH (PD) to unit and AP SUOI NGHE. | |
| | 14 Jun 68 | | Visit by Col LOOM MACV, Col BRADBURY CoS HQ AFV, Lt Col MILLIGAN FORS HQ AFV and Maj Flint CSO2 CA/PSYOPS HQ AFV. Briefing on Aust Military Civic Action and inspection of selected projects. | |
| | | | TET Housing reconstruction suspended LONG DIEN for Province Cardon and Search Operation AN NGAI. | |
| | 15 Jun 68 | | Housing reconstruction recommenced. Visit by AVM TRUDINGER to discuss Med Cap activities. | |
| | 17 Jun 68 | | Conference at Sector HQ to examine implications of deploying an Aust Surgical Team into Province Hospital PHUOC LE during 1968/69. Attended by Mr. CORZERY Aid Counsellor Aust Embassy and Dr. Van De Hof MACCORDS III CTZ. | |
| | 18 Jun 68 | | TET rehousing suspended LONG DIEN. | |
| | 19 Jun 68 | | Visit by USMA Research Team for 10 days to examine Aust Military Civic Action techniques 3 officers and 1 civilian member. House construction recommenced. | |

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR Jun 68

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 Aust CA Unit
Lt Col K. W. LATCHFORD
COMMANDING OFFICER

| Place and grid reference | Date | Time | Event or information | Annex letter and enclosure number |
|--------------------------|--------------|------|--|-----------------------------------|
| PHUOC TUY PROVINCE | 20 Jun 68 | | USMC Film Unit at AP SUOI NGHE. | |
| | 21 Jun 68 | | USMC Film Unit at TEF rehousing project PHUOC LE, Catholic Orphanage and Baria High School | |
| | 22 Jun 68 | | USMC Film Unit at TEF rehousing project LONG DIEN. | |
| | 23 Jun 68 | | Beach Party for RF dependants at APSUOI NGHE at VUNG TAU USMC Film Unit attended to record activities. | |
| | 24 Jun 68 | | USMC Film Unit at VUNG TAU for final film shooting sequences Old Peoples Home NAM BINH. TEF housing programme suspended for security reasons. | |
| | 25 Jun 68 | | LONG DIEN housing recommenced - no incidents. | |
| | 26 Jun 68 | | Recce of suitable areas in Province for possible establishment of large scale refugee settlement village for 5000 persons. Refugee Service Advisor accompanied. | |
| | 27 Jun 68 | | Briefing at Sector HQ by CTZ III Team on Pac Plan 1968 for period Jul - Dec 68. | |
| | 28-30 Jun 68 | | Unit medical team deployed with C Sqn 1 Armd Regt on Op ULLA DULLA for MEDCAP activities PHUOC HOA ON TRING and PHU MY (ROUTE 15) 200 patients treated in period. | |
| | 30 Jun 68 | | Refugee housing reconstruction programme LONG DIEN Progress 37 houses LONG DIEN for Jun 68 total construction 117 houses | |

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

First Australian Civil Affairs Unit
First Australian Task Force
Aust FPO 4
NUI DAT

5 July 1968

R723-1-1

Distribution below

CIVIL AFFAIRS - 1 AUSTRALIAN CIVIL AFFAIRS UNIT

MONTHLY REPORT - JUNE 1968

PHUOC TUY PROVINCE AND VUNG TAU SPECIAL ZONE

1. The monthly report for June 1968 is submitted covering the following:
 - a. Construction - at Annex A.
 - b. Medical - At Annex B.
 - c. Education - At Annex C.
 - d. Commodity distribution - At Annex D.
 - e. Miscellaneous - At Annex E.

Assessment of Future Projects.

2. Australian Force Vietnam Civic Action Plan 1968/69 (Revised 10 June 1968) was received by the unit. Detailed planning has commenced for projects listed in part iii prior to submission of individual project applications for approval by COMAFV

Estimate of Reaction of Recipients

3. Villagers at AP SUOI NGHE have commented favourably on the conduct of the land allocation ballot in May 1968, and are satisfied with the results. Recent damage to vegetable crops at AP SUOI NGHE and BINH GIA by ~~air~~ ^{artificial} defoliation spraying has been a severe psyops set back but CORDS action is in hand to obtain compensation payments for purchase of new seed for replanting.

4. Projects closed in June 1968

| <u>Project No</u> | <u>Date Closed</u> | <u>Final Cost \$VN</u> |
|-------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| 130 | 24 June | 734,000 |
| 132 | 27 June | 675,000 |
| 133 | 27 June | 450,000 |
| 135 | 28 June | 130,000 |
| 136 | 28 June | 130,000 |
| 137 | 28 June | 120,000 |
| 138 | 28 June | 120,000 |
| 139 | 28 June | 120,000 |
| 140 | 28 June | 130,000 |
| 141 | 28 June | 130,000 |
| 142 | 28 June | 120,000 |
| 143 | 28 June | 120,000 |
| 144 | 28 June | 130,000 |
| 145 | 28 June | 130,000 |
| 163 | 7 June | 60,816 |
| 188 | 27 June | 499,140 |
| 191 | 26 June | 174,832 |

/V135.

| <u>Project No</u> | <u>Date Closed</u> | <u>Final Cost \$VN</u> |
|-------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| V115 | 7 June | 219,150 |
| V124 | 7 June | 43,255 |
| V109 | 28 June | 41,974 |
| V135 | 27 June | 15,000 |
| 146 | 27 June | NIL |
| 175 | 27 June | NIL |
| 181 | 7 June | NIL |



(K.W. LATCHFORD)
Lieutenant Colonel
Commanding Officer

Distribution

HQ AFV (8)
HQ 1 ATF
HQ 1 ALSG
Senior Province Adviser Phuoc Tuy Province
Senior Adviser Vung Tau Special Zone
Commanders Diary (4)
File
Spare (10)

1 AUST CA UNIT

MONTHLY REPORT - CONSTRUCTION

(To be at Unit HQ by the third day of each month)

MONTH. JUNE 1968

LOCATION PHUOC TUY PROVINCE

1. PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

| PROJECT NO | LOCATION/DESCRIPTION | STAGE OF COMPLETION | LOCAL LABOUR EMPLOYED | PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED |
|------------|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|---|
| 103 | SUOI NGHE Construction of Market | 85% | Local labourers and tradesman | NIL |
| 121 | BARIA / High School Library | 85% | Local contract | |
| 122 | BARIA / High School Science Block | 80% | Local contract | |
| 182 | LONG DIEN - BARIA / Home building | 85% 117 Houses LONG DIEN 24 Houses BARIA | Local PF carpenters | 5 working days lost due to VC activity in LONG DIEN |

2. RECONNAISSANCE OF FUTURE PROJECTS

| PROJECT NO | LOCATION | TYPE / DESCRIPTION | COMMENTS |
|------------|-----------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 83 | DUC THANH | Construction of Market | Awaiting approval of land |

MONTHLY REPORT - MEDICAL

C1 MACV DIR 40-9

| | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|-----|
| MEDICAL CIVIC ACTION REPORT (MACV Dir 40-9) | | REPORTS CONTROL SYMBOL MACMD -II | | |
| FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 1968 | | DATE JULY 1968 | | |
| to HQ AFV | | FROM 1 ATF | | |
| 1. TREATMENTS | | | | |
| MEDICAL | RESULTING FROM HOSTILE ACTION | MALE | TOTAL | |
| | | FEMALE | | |
| | | UNDER 13 YEARS | NIL | |
| | | 13 YEARS AND OLDER | | |
| NOT RESULTING FROM HOSTILE ACTION | | | 1316 | |
| DENTAL | | | 400 | |
| IMMUNIZATIONS | PLAGUE | NIL | SMALLPOX | NIL |
| | CHOLERA | NIL | OTHER | NIL |
| 2. TRAINING | | | | |
| Number of Vietnamese Health workers trained | | | 5 | |
| Type of training received | | Elementary First Aid | | |
| Personal Hygiene and Sanitation | | Classes held NIL Attendance NIL | | |

3. REMARKS

- a. During the month a treatment card system was introduced to provide patient records and health statistical data in the Province.
- b. A monthly meeting between the Province Medical Chief and US/FWMP medical personnel was initiated to co ordinate Medcap activities with the GVN Rural Health Service activities.
- c. A US Medical Officer is to act as a consultant to the staff of the DAT DO MID. 1 Aust CA Unit medical detachment is to provide a similar service at DUC THANH and LONG HAI. Training of GVN National Nurses and Health workers at these locations will also be undertaken.
- d. A US Dental Officer is to provide a consulting dental service to the province from PHUOC LE Hospital in support of DENTCAP activity.
- e. Efforts are being made to include ARVN, RF and PF medical personnel in the Australian and US medical teams engaged on MEDCAPs in the Province.

MONTHLY REPORT EDUCATION

1. ENGLISH CLASSES

a. School students.

Classes - 12 Students - 700 Student hours - 1400

b. Adult

Classes - Nil.

2. PERSONNEL

a. One English teacher (a National Serviceman on loan 12 Field Regiment has been employed full time at BARIA High School for the month.

b. One Education Officer (Lt) and one Education NCO (Sgt) have marched into the unit, and will be employed on local English instruction tasks in July.

3. SPECIAL TASKS

a. Preparation for summer vacation, six-week English course (to employ 3 teachers)

b. Liaison with Ministry of Education and local authorities reference the establishment of the Provincial High School.

c. Liaison with Director, Technical School and Labour Chief (Phuoc Tuy/ Vung Tau) to establish adult skilled labour training.

d. Liaison with Director, Technical School, and Refugee Service Chief to establish vocational training classes for refugees

e. Monitoring progress on all Education construction activities in the province.

f. Discussion with USAID Library Advisor (SAIGON) reference further training for library personnel for Chan Van Tiep Library.

g. Initial steps in modifying education projects for FY 1968-69 in light of the changed draft status of teachers.

h. Handling of TARP fund payments to teachers seriously affected by the TET offensive.

i. Liaison with 2nd CA Coy (7th Platoon) and See-Bee Team 13302 to provide assistance for smaller education repair projects.

j. Liaison with 2nd CA Coy (7th Platoon) to acquire engineer assistance for site preparation Bau Tram School and Provincial High School.

k. Discussion with Youth and Sports Chief concerning repair of Sports Stadium BARIA.

l. Education kits and equipment were supplied for the opening of the SUOI NGHE School on 3 June 1968. The temporary school is being housed in an Australian Tropical hut pending the construction of a permanent building by the GVN. Elementary classes are being conducted for 60 students twice per day.

ANNEX D TO
1 AUST CA UNIT
R723-1-1 OF
JULY 1968

MONTHLY REPORT - COMMODITY DISTRIBUTION

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | Childrens Clothing | - | 2 boxes 10 Lb each |
| | | - | SUOI NGHE - village and RF Compound |
| | | - | 430 boys shirts |
| | | | Education Office BARIA |
| 2. | Childrens Toys | - | 4 boxes 20 Lb each |
| | | | SUOI NGHE |
| | | - | 9 crates, 159 bubble pipes |
| | | | Education Office BARIA |
| 3. | Kitchen Utensils | - | 2 boxes 15 Lbs each |
| | | | SUOI NGHE |
| | | - | 5 boxes 40 lbs each |
| | | | VUNG TAU |
| | | - | 1384 Plastic items |
| | | | Education Office BARIA |
| 4. | Sewing Machines | - | 2 - 1 each HOA LONG, VUNG TAU. |
| 5. | Exercise Books | - | 288 - Education Office BARIA |

MONTHLY REPORT MISCELLANEOUS

1. PHUOC TUY PROVINCE

- a. Reconnaissance in Force Operations A medical team (1 Medical Officer and 3 Medical Assistants) accompanied CSquadron 1 Armoured Regiment during Operation ULLA DULLA along Route 15 in the period 28-30 June 1968. MEDCAPS were conducted at PHU MY and PHUOC HOA. 200 patients were examined and treated.
- b. Liaison activities
 - (i) Village information surveys for PHUOC TINH, LONG HAI, PHUOC THO and HOI MY were prepared during June 1968.
 - (ii) Assistance given to USMC Film Unit in reconnaissance and filming of Civil Affairs activities at SUOI NGHE, PHUOC LE, LONG DIEN and VUNG TAU.
 - (iii) A beach party for 30 children and 15 wives of 626 RF Coy AP SUOI NGHE was conducted on 23 June at VUNG TAU. Clothing Toys and some baby food was distributed during the outing. It is planned to continue these outings for RF dependants at isolated posts on a regular basis during 1968.
 - (iv) Briefings were given to 1 Australian Reinforcement Unit personnel on PHUOC TUY Province and relations with local population by liaison officers of this unit.
- c. Activities of Units of 1 Australian Task Force
 - i) Construction teams, plus local protection parties from 1 Australian Task Force Units continue to assist in the TET refugee rehousing programme in LONG DIEN.

2. VUNG TAU SPECIAL ZONE

- a. All projects allocated to Vung T for the financial year 1967-68 have been completed.
- b. On receipt of enquiries from teenagers wishing to attend universities in Australia and after discussion with Capt Smith enquiries were made at the Australian Embassy Saigon and the information was conveyed to those interested.
- c. Schools are in recess for Summer Holidays. Three prize giving Ceremonies were attended at school break-ups.
- d. Orientation tours were conducted for the new 2IC Maj Weaver, Capt Price and visiting officer Maj Stein
- e. Arrangements were made for a US filming team to visit the Old Folks Home NAM DONG.
- f. Stores obtained from NUI DAT were distributed to refugee families who have recently arrived in Vung Tau.
- g. Further investigations and preparations were made for projects planned for 1968-69.