

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries

Infantry units

Item number: 7/2/32

**Item: 2 Battalion Royal Australian
Regiment**

Narrative

Annexes

[1-31 Jan 1963]

ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE

Original Jan 63.



Officer in Charge
Military History Section
Administrative Building

PARKES 1
CANBERRA ACT
AUSTRALIA

2nd Battalion
The Royal Australian Regiment

CERTIFIED OFFICIAL

(1)

13 Feb 63.

2nd Battalion,
The Royal Australian Regiment,
Terendak Camp,
MALACCA,
MALAYA.

COMMANDER'S DIARY

Your 117/3/2 of 5 Feb 63.

Receipt is acknowledged of the following diaries :-

Duplicate for Dec 62.
Original for Jan 63.



(J.H. SMITH) Captain
O i/c Military History Section

2

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(J.H. SMITH) Captain
O i/c Military History Section

TELEPHONE



AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

(3)

Quote in Reply
117/3/2

ADDRESS 2nd Battalion
The Royal Australian Regiment
Terendak Camp
MALACCA
MALAYA

5 Feb 63

Officer-in-Charge
Military History Section
AHQ CANBERRA
AUSTRALIA

COMMANDER'S DIARY

... Herewith Commander's Diary for the period 1 - 31 Jan 63.
Also included is the duplicate copy for the month of Dec 62.

Herbert J. Maden *Repd*
Lt Col
CO

COMMANDER'S DIARY
NARRATIVE

Page 23.

Proforma C2118

Place and Grid Reference	Day of Month	Hour	Event or Information	Annx letter and enclosure number
TERENDAK	1-6 Jan 63		2 RAR on stand-down	
"	7 Jan 63	0800 hrs	2 RAR commenced trg for 1963	
ASAHAN	9-10 Jan 63		2 RAR Bn HQ, Sp Coy and A & B Coys participated in Bde con ex DOVETAIL in conjunction with RN.	Anx 'A' & 'B' 2 RAR 225/1/1 of 1 Jan 63 and 15 Jan 63 refers.
TERENDAK	13 Jan 63		2 RAR stand-down.	
"	16 Jan 63		Visit MA SAIGON Lt Col L.I. HOPTON MBE via his RTA.	
"	18 Jan 63		28 Bde cross country run championships won by 1 KOYLI. 2 RAR ran second place.	
"	20 Jan 63		2 RAR standdown.	
"	21 Jan 63	1630-1730 hrs	Offr Trg programme commenced.	
"	26 Jan 63	1830-1900 hrs	2 RAR Band Beat Retreat to celebrate AUSTRALIA DAY. Offrs and Official Guests attended a cocktail party after the ceremony.	Anx 'C' 2 RAR 234/1/5 of 15 Jan 63 refers.
"	27 Jan 63		2 RAR stand-down.	
"	29 Jan 63	1030-1145 hrs	Lecture by Dr TINKER - UK expert in Political Science.	Anx 'D' 2 RAR 32/3/5 of 16 Jan 63 refers.

(5)

In reply please
quote: 225/1/1

2nd Battalion
The Royal Australian Regiment
Terendak Camp
MALACCA

1 Jan 63

2 RAR - TRAINING DIRECTIVE 1/63
1 JAN 63 - 30 JUN 63

INTRODUCTION

1. All members of the battalion will be aware of the constant changing situations and tensions in South East Asia. The possibility that 2 RAR will have to move to a theatre of operations at short notice remains. As part of the British Commonwealth Strategic Reserve 2 RAR has to be ready, in a matter of hours, to leave their present location and to fight in any area of South East Asia.

2. All officers and NCOs have a responsibility to ensure that troops under their command are physically fit, trained to the maximum efficiency within the time available, and in all respects to be ready for active service against a potential enemy.

3. Training is a race against time. When a sudden emergency develops and troops living in a peace time atmosphere are suddenly thrown into action, commanders at all levels regret they did not make use of time they once had. Each hour of the working day within this unit has therefore to be designed to ensure that it is fully used to improve our battle worthiness. All ranks will therefore approach training with the attitude of mind that everything achieved will reduce the numbers of lives lost, should an emergency develop.

AIM

4. The aim of this instruction is to designate specific training activities during the period 1 Jan - 30 Jun 1963 and to present a framework on which Company Commanders can organize the training of their companies.

OUTLINE

5. An outline of events is given at Annex A. The period will be roughly divided as follows:-

- a. Jan - Feb - Platoon training
- b. Mar - Jun - Company training.

6. Superimposed over this platoon and company training there will be a number of battalion exercises designed to keep the unit at the maximum operational efficiency. An outline of major exercises is given below:-

- 9 - 10 Jan - DOVETAIL (MALAYA)
- 25 Feb - 2 Mar - BELLBUSTER (MALAYA)
- 12 - 29 Mar - GAVOTTE (BORNEO)
- 24 May - 7 Jul - SEATO EX (THAILAND)

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PLATOON TRAINING PERIOD

7. During Jan - Feb the emphasis will be on getting reinforcements welded into platoon teams. Platoons will place emphasis on night operations, patrolling, and on mastering platoon techniques of the four phases of war.
8. Platoons will spend at least 10 nights in the field. Training will be designed to exercise platoons in movement in various types of terrain at night and in the holding of a defensive position by night.
9. Companies will set a three day test exercise for each platoon involving advance, attack and defence by night.
10. During the period 10 Jan - 23 Feb 2 RAR has priority on the Asahan Jungle Lanes. Each platoon will spend at least three days field firing on these ranges. The following will be available to companies:-
 - 36 M Grenade Range
 - Ambush Range (SLR, MG, SMG)
 - Shooting Galleries (SLR, MG, SMG)
 - Sneaker Lanes (SLR, MG, SMG)
 - 3.5 RL and 94 Gun Range
 - Pl/Sec Def Range (SLR, MG, SMG)
 - Sec Attack Range (SLR, MG, SMG)
11. Each company will undertake a route march of 20 miles in 24 hours during this period.
12. During this period companies will ensure that they have trained two loading and lashing teams. They will deal directly with SUEO on this matter.

COMPANY TRAINING PERIOD

13. The period Mar - Jun will be used by companies to improve their techniques in the four phases of war. During this period each company will take part in a test exercise to be set by battalion; any phase of war may be selected.
14. Companies will train against a Chinese type enemy. However, some emphasis will be given to anti-guerilla operations. In particular troops will be trained to find a Viet Cong type enemy. During this period training in the search of a defended village will be organized on a battalion basis.

SPECIALIST TRAINING

15. Continuation training for trained paratroopers will be organized under battalion arrangements.
16. The mortar and anti tank platoons will carry out field firing during this training period. The pioneer platoon will carry out refresher training with live explosives and ammunition. In addition these platoons will train in a rifle platoon role.

OFFICER TRAINING

17. Officer training will continue to be held at 1630 hrs each Monday. The programme will be co-ordinated by OC A Coy after consultation with CO

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3/...

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- 3 -

WEAPON TRAINING

18. All training loses its effect unless troops can kill enemy after they find him. Although there was an improvement in marksmanship within the unit during 1962, greater attention must be given to this during 1963. Companies will ensure that full use is made of all available ranges. All members of the battalion will fire their annual range practice by 17 May. Companies will have records of individual performances available at all times. A team under direction of CO will test selected soldiers at random to gauge whether the standard of shooting is improving at the required rate.

TRAINING FACILITIES, RANGES ETC

19. The I.O. will issue a separate instruction setting out availability of ranges and all training facilities during period. This instruction will also cover the procedure at weekly training conferences and the method to be employed to ensure that maximum use is made of all training facilities.

C. B. Stratton
Lt Col
CO 2 RAR

DISTRIBUTION

A	Coy(2)	CO	A/Adjt
B	Coy(2)	ZIC	RSM
C	Coy(2)	Adjt	WO2 Regt Duties
D	Coy(2)	IO	Bandmaster
Sp	Coy(2)	QM	Pay Sgt
Adm	Coy(2)	Bn TO	WO2 Caterer
Offrs	Mess	RMO	Chaplains (3)
Sgts	Mess	RSO	

Copy to: HQ 17 Gurkha Div (for Diary of Events)
HQ 28 COMWEL Inf Bde Gp/TERENDAK Gar
HQ Aust Army Force, GPO, FARELF
Regimental Colonel
17 Battery RA
11 Fd Sqn
208 Sigs Sqn

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Annex A to 2 RAR
Trg Directive dated 1 Jan 63

JANUARY

8)
9) DOVETAIL) Ammo Inspection
10))
16 Visit MA SAIGON
21
26 Australia Day | Technical
29 Lecture - Dr TINKLER | Inspection of Vehicles

FEBRUARY

1)
5) Technical Inspection of Vehicles |
7 Div Cross Country Final
8 Div Rugby Final
23 CIGS Visit
25-28 BELLBUSTER

MARCH

1-2 BELLBUSTER
12-29 GAVOTTE

APRIL

3-5 TIEN LIEN
10-11 LEADERSHIP STUDY
12-15 EASTER

MAY

21 BDE OP PLAN
24-31 SEATO EX

JUNE

1-31 SEATO EX

CONFIDENTIAL

Jan 63

(6)

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In reply please
quote: 225/1/1

2nd Battalion
The Royal Australian Regiment
Terendak Camp
MALACCA

15 Jan 63

TRAINING FACILITIES
1 Jan 63 - 30 Jun 63

GENERAL

1. The aim of this instruction is to lay down the division of responsibility for trg facilities between Int Sec and WO2 Regt Duties and outline what trg facilities are available for coy and bn trg.

RESPONSIBILITIES

2. All internal unit trg facilities will be controlled and maintained by WO2 Regt Duties. These facilities include:-

- a. 25 yd Range
- b. Unit Lecture Hall
- c. Aslt Course
- d. Indoor Range.

3. In addition WO2 Regt Duties will be responsible for the indenting, collection and supply of films required by sub-units.

4. The Int Sec will be responsible for:-

- a. Promulgation and submission of all scheduled courses avail to unit members and submitting bids to respective schools.
- b. All 28 COMWEL Bde controlled facilities incl
 - (1) Ac mockups
 - (2) 600 yd Classification Range.
 - (3) Jungle Ranges (MASJID TANAH Rd)
 - (4) Jungle EAST and Jungle WEST
 - (5) VC Info Room and Presentation Hall
 - (6) 28 COMWEL Bde Jungle Ranges (ASAHAN)

2/...

c. All other Classification Ranges:

- (1) Mersing Rd KLUANG
- (2) MENYALA Range PORT DICKSON

d. All other fd firing areas:

- (1) ASAHAN
- (2) ULU TIRAM

e. All "dry trg" areas:

- (1) BRINCHANG CAMP CAMERON HIGHLANDS
- (2) Biv area at KUANTAN
- (3) KONKOI Trg Area.

DETAILS OF FACILITIES

5. Terendak Camp Jungle Range No 1

2 RAR has first priority on the use of this range and is responsible for its maintenance. Distance from the unit lines is approx 3 miles and Range Orders are held by Int Sec. Sub-units using the range must repair all tgts at the conclusion of firing. Controlled by Bde HQ.

6. Jungle EAST and Jungle WEST

When any of the four Jungle Ranges are in use a large area of Jungle WEST is incl in the danger area. Controlled by Bde HQ and therefore Jungle WEST will NOT be used.

7. Mersing Rd Range KLUANG

A 400 yd 12 tgts classification range. Travelling time approx 3½ hrs. Range orders not avail as yet. Controlled by Bde HQ and avail to 28 Bde Gp immediately although most of Feb and Mar have already been allotted to units outside the Bde.

8. MENYALA Range PORT DICKSON

Both Classification and Grenade Ranges avail. Normally only allocated to 28 Bde Gp for a max of 6 days each month. Controlled by Fed Army.

9. BRINCHANG CAMP CAMERON HIGHLANDS

Hutted accom for approx coy str avail. Not suitable for tactical trg. Travelling time approx 9 hrs by rd. Controlled by 17 Gur Div.

10. KUANTAN Biv Area

A non-gazetted area requiring special land clearance. Suitable for approx coy str. Travelling time approx 10 hrs.

11. KONKOI Trg Area

An area approx 15 miles square, NE of SEREMBAN. In the area are both open and jungle areas, three lakes, two rivers, an airstrip and several tracks. NO swimming is permitted because of the danger of leptospirosis. Further details are avail from Int Sec. The trg area is controlled by 17 Gur Div.

APPLICATIONS FOR FACILITIES

12. Applications for the use of internal unit facilities will be lodged with WO2 Regt Duties giving as much notice as possible.

13. Applications for the use of bde and div controlled facilities will be given to the IO at the monthly trg conference unless notified otherwise.

MONTHLY TRG CONFERENCE

14. These conferences will be held in the Int Office during the first week of each month. Timings will be notified separately. At these conferences the bids for the following month will be discussed, and then forwarded to the controlling authority.

McChapman Capt
IO

DISTR:

A	Coy(2)	CO	RSM
B	Coy(2)	2IC	WO2 Regt Duties
C	Coy(2)	Adjt	Comds Diary
D	Coy(2)	IO	Spare (3)
Sp	Coy(4)	QM	
Adm	Coy(2)	Bn TO	

Jan 63

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

①

In reply please
quote: 234/1/5

2nd Battalion
The Royal Australian Regiment
Terendak Camp
MALACCA

15th Jan 63

Distr below

OFFICER TRAINING PROGRAMME
21 JAN - 20 MAY 63

1. Offr trg will resume on Mon 21 Jan 63 and will be held in the Offrs Mess Ante-Room each Mon from 1630 hrs to 1730 hrs.
2. Syllabus
... Att at Anx 'A' is the syllabus for the period 21 Jan - 20 May 63
3. Instructional Responsibilities
 - a. Current events in SE ASIA - IO
 - b. Org and roles Pentropic Div - A Coy
 - c. SD and mil writing - Adm Coy
4. Maj LEARY will coord the trg programme under the direction of the CO.
5. Australian offr in Terendak Garrison from units other than 2 RAR are invited to attend. Please inform Adjt 2 RAR (Ext 409) by 1200 hrs each Monday of members who will attend.

Herbert J. Macdonald

Capt
Adjt

DISTR:
One per officer 2 RAR
Offrs Mess

INTERNAL
Comds Diary ✓
Adjt
File
Spare

Copy to:
HQ 28 COMWEL Inf Bde Gp/TERENDAK Gar
(for promulgation para 5)

Annex A to 2 RAR
234/1/5 dated / 5th Jan 63

Serial	Date	Time	Subject	Responsible for Instruction
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
1	21 Jan	1630-1640	Recent Events SE Asia	IO
		1640-1700	Recapitulation Outline Org Pentropic Div	A Coy
		1700-1730	Msg writing	Adm Coy (Maj HONE) Bn HQ
2	28 Jan	1630-1640	Recent Events SE Asia	IO
		1640-1700	Recapitulation Inf Bn	A Coy
		1700-1730	Prac ex - Msg writing	Adm Coy Bn HQ
3.	4 Feb	1630-1640	Recent Events SE Asia	IO
		1640-1730	Org and characteristic Armd Regt Recce Sqn	B Coy
4	11 Feb	1630-1640	Recent Events SE Asia	IO
		1640-1730	Orders	Adm Coy Bn HQ
5	18 Feb	1630-1640	Recent Events SE Asia	IO
		1640-1730	Org and characteristics RAA and RAE within Pentropic Div	C Coy
6	4 Mar	1630-1640	Recent Events SE Asia	IO
		1640-1730	Orders	Adm Coy Bn HQ
7	1 Apr	1630-1640	Recent Events SE Asia	IO
		1640-1730	Org and characteristics Div Sig Regt, Lt ac Sqn and RAASC in Pentropic Div	Sp Coy

Serial	Date	Time	Subject	Responsible for Instruction
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
8	8 Apr	1630-1640	Recent Events in SE Asia	IO
		1640-1730	Appreciations	Adm Coy Bn HQ
9	22 Apr	1630-1640	Recent Events in SE Asia	IO
		1640-1700	Recapitulation Msg Writing	Adm Coy Bn HQ
		1700-1730	Recapitulation Org Inf Bn	A Coy
10	29 Apr	1630-1640	Recent Events in SE Asia	IO
		1640-1700	Org Fd Amb	RMO
		1700-1730	Org RAAOC, RAEME Units in Pentropic Div	D Coy
11	6 May	1630-1640	Recent Events in SE Asia	IO
		1640-1700	Org Int, Postal, Pro within Pentropic Div	D Coy
		1700-1730	Recapitulation Armd Regt	B Coy
12	13 May	1630-1640	Recent Events in SE Asia	IO
		1640-1730	Appreciations	Adm Coy Bn HQ
13	20 May	1630-1640	Recent Events in SE Asia	IO
		1640-1730	Reserved	

Jan 63

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

In reply please
quote: 32/3/5

2nd Battalion
The Royal Australian Regiment
Terendak Camp
MALACCA

16 Jan 63

AUSTRALIA DAY - 26 JAN 63
BEATING RETREAT CEREMONY

GENERAL

1. a. 2 RAR band will Beat The Retreat to celebrate AUSTRALIA DAY on 26 Jan 63 on 2 RAR parade ground from 1830 - 1900 hrs.
- b. This instruction details events to take place both prior to and on 26 Jan 63.

TROOPS TAKING PART

2. a. 2 RAR band complete
- b. Flag orderlies - Sgt TAYLOR
" McGARRY
- c. Traffic control - RP Section
- d. Unit photographer - as arranged by Cpl BRODZIAK
- e. Chief marshall - Capt G CHAPMAN.

SPECTATORS

3. a. All members of 2 RAR
- b. Approximately 130 Official Guests by invitation from 2 RAR Officers' Mess.
- c. A general invitation has been extended to all ranks and their families in TERENDAK Garrison.

SEATING

4. a. WO2 VAGG will be responsible for arranging the procurement, layout and ultimate return of all chairs and seating used for the occasion.
- b. A team of officers will act as marshalls under the direction of the Chief Marshall who will be responsible for the detailed seating plan and the reception and conducting to their seats of all Official Guests and spectators.

2/...

- c. All marshalls will be detailed and briefed separately to this instruction.
- d. Coys will ensure that all seat covers of lounges and settees are washed prior to 26 Jan 63.

DRESS

5. a. Members of 2 RAR

- (1) Officers - White mess kit and forage caps
- (2) Other Ranks - Safari and/or No 2 with shoes.
- (3) RP Section and Flag orderlies - No 2

b. Spectators

Official guests have been asked to wear lounge suits.

SALUTING

6. All ranks NOT on parade will salute during the lowering of the flag for the Last Post.

VEHICLE PARKING

7. a. VIP vehicles will be parked in Bn HQ car park. Any overflow will be parked on the hard standing in front of Company Headquarters.
- b. All 2 RAR OR vehicles will be parked in the area adjacent to the magazine.
- c. Vehicles of spectators other than VIP visitors will be parked in the OR car park. Any overflow will be directed to the area adjacent to the magazine.
- d. RP Sgt will ensure that respective car parks are signposted by 1400 hrs 26 Jan 63 and that strict compliance with para 7 of this instruction is observed.
- e. NO vehicle will proceed NORTH past OR car park after 1825 hrs 26 Jan 63.

COCKTAIL PARTY

8. All Official Guests and officers will attend a cocktail party in 2 RAR Officers Mess after the ceremony.

WORKING PARTIES

9. a. Seating

Each company will detail 1 NCO and 4 OR to report W02 Regt Duties Bn HQ at 1330 hrs 26 Jan 63 to work as directed. The same work parties will report to W02 Regt Duties at Sgts Mess seating enclosure at 1905 hrs 26 Jan 63.

b. Transport

Bn TO will provide 2 x 3 Ton vehicles to report W02 Regt Duties at Bn HQ at 1330 hrs 26 Jan 63 to work as directed.

c. Barrack Stores

Sgt DALY will liaise with W02 Regt Duties prior to 25 Jan 63 for collection of chairs from outside sources.

Kenneth J. Gladen

Capt
Adjt

DISTR:

A Coy	CO
B Coy	2IC
C Coy	Adjt
D Coy	IO
Sp Coy	QM
Adm Coy	Bn TO
Bn HQ	RMO
Offrs Mess	Aadjt
Sgts Mess	RSM
Comds Diary	W02 Regt Duties
Spare	Bandmaster
Float	RP Sgt
File	Sgt DALY

Copy to: HQ 28 COMWEL Inf Bde Gp/
Terendak Gar
DADPR Aust Army Force FARELF
GHQ SINGAPORE