

Australian Army Training Team Vietnam (AATTV)

Narrative, Annexes
1 - 30 September 1963

Series: AWM95 - Australian Army
commanders' diaries

Item: 1/2/16

Sep 63

1/2/Sep 63

SECRET

Army Form C2119

COMMANDER'S DIARY
of
AUSTRALIAN ARMY TRAINING TEAM, VIETNAM

Colonel F. P. Serong, OBE

From *MAY 62* To.....

F. P. Serong Cpl
(Signature of Comd or Senior Staff Officer)

INDEX

Narrative (AF C2118)

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
- J Administrative orders and instructions received
- *K Administrative reports and bulletins; ammunition returns; field strength returns
- L Standing Orders issued
- M Commander's policy and demi-Official letters
- N Action reports (if required)
- O Other papers eg, maps and diagrams, air photos, reports from sub units
- P Periodical summaries of operations *REPORT NO 14*

- Z Top Secret Supplementary Report

Enclosure Numbers

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COMMANDERS DIARY
NARRATIVE

Army Form C2118

MONTH AND YEAR. SEPTEMBER 1963

UNIT/FORMATION. AATTV
COMMANDING OFFICER Col. E. P. SERONG, OBE

Place and grid reference	Day of Month	Hour	Event or Information	Annex letter enclosure and number
	1		Spring in Victoria.	
			Saigon is quiet. Most arrested students have been released Xa Loi opened yesterday. Most monks released.	
			An evening visitor called to warn of possible assassination plot involving several key advisory personnel; and that Warner's manuscripts had been found in Xa Loi during the raid. Calmed him down.	
	2		We appear to have survived the night.	
			Labour Day - US Holiday; also Buddhiest All Souls Day. Extraordinary headlines in Times of Vietnam accusing CIA of financing a coup and stirring up the Buddhiests. Timing of this, in conjunction with De Gaulle's statement published Thursday last, is a rather strange coincidence.	
	3.		Continued attacks in Press, this time by General Dinh, this time involving the Attacks of "three foreign powers". I am informed that the three are named as Australia, UK, and Phillippines.	
	4		Verbal message via Lt Col OXLEY that CGS proposes visit on way home from UK. Simultaneously, a signal from DCGS asking for recommendation discussed with Ambassador. Advised visit should procede with Ambassador's proviso that implications of visit at	

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COMMANDERS DIARY
NARRATIVE

Army Form C2118

UNIT/FORMATION.....AATTV.....

MONTH AND YEAR.....SEPTEMBER.1963.....

COMMANDING OFFICER..Col. F. P. SERONG. OBE

Place and grid reference	Day of Month	Hour	Event or Information	Annex letter enclosure and number
			time of strained US/VN relations should be appreciated. New Foreign Minister (CUU)	
			was enthusiastic about it. Town still quite. Operations proceeding at about normal intensity.	
	5.		Attachment of Capt Hagerty to an Armoured Squadron has been refused by Chief of Armour.	
			AATTV mail (newspapers) held up at Airport.	
	6		AATTV mail (newspapers) released - a procedural error.	
			Lt Col LIEM (Defence) is handling the Hagerty matter. Says its connected with security role of local armoured squadrons. Probably true.	
			Taped a radio talk for Barnett of ABC on AATTV.	
	7		Student trouble in the streets, many hundreds arrested.	
	8		Town quiet.	
	9		Visit of Secretary Vance and all U.S. Generals cancelled.	
			Briefed Ambassador on current situation.	
	10		Hagerty position straightened out by direction from Secretary Thuan. That should take care of future problems.	
			To Da Nang to visit Captains Healy/Petersen.	

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COMMANDERS DIARY
NARRATIVE

Army Form C2118

UNIT/FORMATION.....AATTV.....

MONTH AND YEAR...SEPTEMBER 1963.....

COMMANDING OFFICER...Col. F.P. SERONG OBE

Place and grid reference	Day of Month	Hour	Event or Information	Annex letter enclosure and number
			All programmes there have been halted because of power struggle involving Can. We await the outcome. Da Nang group are now located in fresh accomodation. A good three bed-room villa.	
	11		By helicopter with Captain Healy to visit a new SH complex (which contained no young men!) and a regimental attack in which two of the three battalions were Phu Bai trained, and the blocking force (such as it was) was from Da Nang CIDG programme. Quite a good operation in the local context. Fifty three killed by 2/5 battalion up to the time of my visit. Captain Boileau returned from Hue. Message from Saigon to say CGS visit abandoned. Stood down all concerned in the Da Nang area.	
	12		Briefed Boileau on orientation his Psy ops operations to ensure no young men are lost in the forthcoming Phuc Chau SH operation. Departed for Saigon in CS apache. Aimed at overflying a PAVN airfield inside Laos on the border near Kontum. Too much cloud. Signal to hand (info AATTV) telling CGS EA still oppose his visit. Newspaper campaign against US persists. Town quiet.	
	13		Briefed Capt Pollard, Sgt Stokes. Prepared replacement programme. Checked with General Harkins/ Ambassador Hill on action in event that CGS does in	

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COMMANDERS DIARY
NARRATIVE

Army Form C2118

MONTH AND YEAR... SEPTEMBER 1963

UNIT/FORMATION..... AATTV
COMMANDING OFFICER..... Col F.P. SERONG OBE

Place and grid reference	Day of Month	Hour	Event or Information	Annex letter enclosure and number
			fact appear. Signalled AHQ asking advice on CGS arrival or otherwise.	
			Briefed Ambassador on current position.	
	14		General Dinh is "resting" by President's order having recently overshot himself.	
			Long may his rest continue.	
	15		Still no word from AHQ or CGS visit. Must now assume he is not coming.	
	16		A group of four US Advisors beaten up, one seriously at IV Corps Training Centre.	
			Assailants not identified but numbered 6-10 persons in ARVN uniforms.	
			Malaysia Day Celebrations (no Philippines or Indonesian in attendance)	
			Departure of Captain Healy and Major Tinkler. They both did fine work.	
	17		It Col Oxley reports that Secretary Thuan personally approved Captain Hagerty's attachment to armoured squadron. Also that Palace, protocol, Thuan, etc., were all prepared to meet CGS Monday. Apparently they got hoist on their own monitoring system.	
	18		-	
	19		Senior Advisors Conference	
			Arranged with J-2 for copies of translations of POW material for AHQ	

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COMMANDERS DIARY
NARRATIVE

Army Form C2118

MONTH AND YEAR... SEPTEMBER 1963

UNIT/FORMATION... AATTV
COMMANDING OFFICER... Col F.P. SERONG, OBE

Place and grid reference	Day of Month	Hour	Event or Information	Annex letter enclosure and number
	20		Senior Advisors Conference continues with briefing for Ambassador Lodge. Rather rose-coloured.	
	21		News of recent big battle 11 miles south of Saigon (Long An). Being received with jubilation. Simple souls think this is a good sign. I wonder how happy we'll be when we have a battalion size victory in Cholon. Explosion at Kinh Do Theatre. No casualties.	
	22		-	
	23		Mr. Thompson of Briam departs for Australia and NZ. Considers we are "forcing them to fight," and that we may have trouble surviving the next few months with the present political power grouping. Cannot agree with either of these beliefs.	
	24		Briefed Ambassador Hill on current situation. Ambassador Lodge has asked that I brief Secretary McNamara on his forthcoming visit. Agreed to do so provided General Harkins concurred. To Ban Me Thout to place Captain Petersen - in company of Mr Mills (CSD). Shut out of BMT. Overnight at Nha Trang, where two VNAF C47 had yesterday been sabotaged by explosives on the ground.	

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COMMANDERS DIARY
NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION..... AATTV
COMMANDING OFFICER..... COL F.P. SERONG, OBE

MONTH AND YEAR..... SEPTEMBER 1963.....

Place and grid reference	Day of Month	Hour	Event or Information	Annex letter enclosure and number
	25		To BMT. Petersen located in hotel temporarily while awaiting accomodation. Took him around his contacts - Province Chief, Director of Police (Regional), Senior Advisor and Staff 23 Div. Petersen and Mills contemplate building a Rhade type timber house plus training center, which is a good idea.	
	26		Trouble getting out of BMT. Helio from Saigon failed to arrive. Finally got out on a C47 of the "Dirty Thirty" who can always be relied on to fly when and where nobody else will. 23 Div has a picture of increasing VC strength and effort. Arrived Saigon without incident. Found a very pleasant and commendatory letter from General Harkins praising activities of AATTV over its first year.	
	27		Conference with Mr. Dunn, Special Assistant to Ambassador Lodge, specific to current visit of Secretary McNamara, General Taylor and party.	
	28		Talked to General Koulack, USMC (of Sec Def party) in presence of General Weede (COS MACV) and Mr. W. Colby, CIA. A pointless conversation in which we happily agreed on trivialities, and avoided any matter of consequence.	
	29		Conference with USOM Rural Affairs Division on situation in Delta Strategic Hamlets. Not good. Advised by Mr. Dunn that briefing for Sec Def no longer necessary. This is fortunate as I have no desire to intervene in fight between two U.S. Departments.	

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COMMANDERS DIARY
NARRATIVE

Army Form C2118

MONTH AND YEAR... SEPTEMBER 1963

UNIT/FORMATION... AATTV

COMMANDING OFFICER... Col F. P. SERONG, OBE

Place and grid reference	Day of Month	Hour	Event or Information	Annex letter enclosure and number
	30		Briefed Signor Corsini of Italian Embassy of conduct of war in broad simple terms.	
			Departure of Captain Sticpewich, who has done a splendid job at Phu Bai, particularly in raising the standard of shooting.	
			Discussed situation with Canadian ICC Commission (Mr Cox) and his Senior Military Advisor.	
			Monthly report submitted AHQ	21

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AUSTRALIAN ARMY TRAINING TEAM
VIETNAM

REPORT No. 14

FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 1963

BY

COLONEL F. P. SERONG, OBE, COMMANDING

GENERAL

1. There has been an improvement in US/VN relations, and it now appears possible that the dispute will simmer down to minor dimensions. GVN appears still in firm control. Such rumblings as one hears give no evidence of being sufficiently organized to effect the stability of the government. The National Elections were completed with no trouble among the voters, and only the most ineffectual opposition from VC.

2. The intensity of VC-initiated operations continues to rise, and currently I rate the operational picture as less than satisfactory.

3. All advisory elements in the closing days of the month have been heavily engaged with the visit of the party of Secretary McNamara.

HEALTH

4. Captain Irvine has suffered a little gastro-intestinal trouble, common among new arrivals. Now recovered.

WELL BEING

5. With the advent of the rains in the North the water problems of Phu Bai and Hiep Khanh have ended. However, measures are proceeding to prevent a recurrence next dry season. Currently, Phu Bai airfield is awash, with aircraft entry frequently impossible. This has had some effect on ration supply, but of minor significance.

6. Earlier ration supply problems having their origin in multiple handling between Saigon and Hue (one of the birth-pangs of a new logistic system) have been removed by the institution of a special air delivery daily from Tan Son Nhut to Phu Bai, which most adequately caters for all local AATTV movement needs. On the occasions when aircraft have been unable to land at Phu Bai, road transport from Da Nang has met the need. At present the road is secure, and can be traversed without escort.

7. Communications at Hiep Khanh have been a problem, with water troubles frequently cutting out all electronic gear. This is receiving attention.

8. Allowances. With another large pay raise for the US Forces in Vietnam the general need for recognition of the unsatisfactory position of AATTV members living in a US economic climate again comes to the fore. It will be appreciated that Australian personnel stationed in the US, and elsewhere in US controlled areas, receive allowances to help meet this situation. Here, in Vietnam, the US soldier receives additional allowances, and his Australian colleague is reduced (compare for example, the allowances of Australian personnel at Fort Bragg and Okinawa). This position continues most unsatisfactory.

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MORALE

9. At present, excellent. It may be anticipated that, after some months, the problems of monotony that were evident among the first team will appear with the second group.

10. Partly to meet this, and no less to give AATTV personnel an opportunity to exercise their techniques in the important and developing field of Village Defence, I request permission to modify the deployment of the team to permit further Australian participation in the CIDG (Civilian Irregular Defence Group) programme. It will be recalled that two members of the team stationed at Da Nang are engaged in this activity, and that, from time to time, a third member is detached to the CIDG base at Khe Sahn for the same type work.

11. The arrangement visualised is to reduce the Hiep Khanh and Phu Bai detachments (which are now running well within themselves, and which will, if necessary, be made good from US personnel) from ten to seven each, and Duc My from four to three, giving a seven man team for employment with the US Special Forces. Thus established, most personnel would be rotated through each of the three stations, giving approximately four months at each point. This would keep each man giving of his best throughout the year, give him a better overall knowledge of the country, and, I am confident, eliminate the problems arising from monotony.

12. I have discussed this proposal with the appropriate authorities here, and it receives their enthusiastic support. Approval of Australian authorities would enable me to launch it in time to be effective.

13. The general area considered for this activity is KON TUM-PLEIKU, the value of Australian representation in which will need no explanation.

LANGUAGE

14. I continue to be most impressed by the results of the incorporation of two linguists in the Team. I have reported earlier on the prestige lift following their arrival, both with the military element and the civilian populace. Both men are conducting classes for Vietnamese staff members of their establishments, and the results are outstanding. On the other side, I am no less impressed with the interest displayed by AATTV members in acquiring a working knowledge (crude, perhaps) of military Vietnamese.

15. The result of these two factors is that many classes can now be conducted without the necessary presence of an interpreter, a condition which pleases both the advisor and the Vietnamese instructor.

IMPACT OF NEW TEAMS

16. Exceeding my expectations, I find that the new team members have quickly gathered in and consolidated on the work of the initial group. Already it is possible to detect a fresh impetus in the work of all centres. The new teams are going forward from the fine ground work established in the first year.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

17. Dong Da (Phu Bai). One battalion in training, one completed training, one due in. Recruit course, two replacements groups, NCO courses (CC1 and CC2). Student strength: 2200.

18. Hiep Khanh
Has just completed training of four CG companies. Awaits next intake, meanwhile is training a newly arrived Security cum Demonstation Company.
Student Strength: 800.
19. Duc My
Completed training of one Ranger Battalion. Continuation of Jungle-Mountain-Swamp Course. Continuation training of two Special Task platoons.
Continuation training of three recruit replacement companies. Student Strength: 1200.
20. Da Nang
Captain Boileau has begun operations with the Special Forces and Combined Studies Division, where his current efforts are directed primarily towards Psy War measures with Montagnard tribesmen in support of the Villege Defence Programme.
21. Captain Petersen, now well established as a member of the Da Nang group, is temporarily working the Ban Me Thout area and similarly occupied.
22. Extract from Dong Da report:
"- - - - 2 Bn 5 Regt, which was the last battalion in training, is meeting with great success in operations in Quang Ngai province. In one action against a VC unit, this battalion is reported to have killed (counted dead) 68 VC, mainly by rifle and MG fire, for the loss of seven killed and several wounded. - -"
I observed that operation and can add that they went on subsequently to destroy the local VC regimental Headquarters. A very satisfactory result.

INFORMATION REQUESTED

23. Status of proposal to attach Australian personnel to US Rand D elements here.
24. Status of proposal that AATTV wear MACV insignia. I have advice through External Affairs channels on this matter, but can take no action until I hear from AHQ.

COMMENDATION

25. A copy is appended of a letter from General Paul D. Harkins, COMUSMACV, to Comd, AATTV expressing his appreciation of AATTV's first year's work. This letter has been copied and sent to all past and present AATTV members. General Harkins has been assured of our continued dedication to the task on hand.
26. I have had my attention drawn to the splendid work of WO1 Perkins, WOII Williams (both recently departed this theatre) and Sgt Cochrane - all of Hiep Khanh. This I have confirmed from my own observations. Each in his own allotted sphere - respectively, General Subjects, Tactics, and Weapons, has made a most significant contribution to the successful developement of this key installation.
27. In a different field, I should record the outstanding performances of Captain Wade, of Duc My Ranger Training Centre, who has been in great measure responsible for the high operational effectiveness of the ARVN's Ranger units; and of Captain Healy, whose work with Special Forces and Combined Studies

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Division at Da Nang made a material contribution to the effective launching of this entirely new type of military operation.

28. As attachments to this report (copy 1 only) I have included the following letters of commendation:

- (a) Letter of appreciation for 235076 Maj B. R. Tinkler.
- (b) Two letters of commendation for 28316 Capt K. E. Sticpewich.
- (c) Two letters of commendation for 31707 Sgt A. A. Young.
- (d) Letter of appreciation for 235076 Maj B. R. Tinkler, 61097 Capt I. J. Gollings and 22907 Sgt R. P. Pincott.

ATTACHMENTS

29. Captain Hagerty, RAAC, has completed a most useful attachment with an anoured unit in the Delta. Later, he will do a similar attachment in the more broken terrain of the north.

30. Sergeant Kennedy joined a unit of 2 Division on operations as an observer. A beneficial attachment.

CONCLUSION

31. A good month for AATTV. Not so good for GVN.

J.P. Secant

Col
Cond, AATTV
11 Oct 63

DISTRIBUTION:

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Diary (2) ✓
File

(4)

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Annex "A" to
AATTV Report No. 14

ARRIVALS

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>Sched date of Arrival</u>	<u>Actual date of Arrival</u>	<u>Station</u>
335087	Capt	R. L. POLLARD	10 Sep 63	8 Sep 63	DONG DA
213760	Sgt	B. STOKES	10 Sep 63	8 Sep 63	HIEP KHANH

DEPARTURES

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>Sched date of Departure</u>	<u>Actual date of departure</u>	<u>Station</u>
57044	Capt	B. WADE	9 Sep 63	5 Sep 63	Duc My
31707	Sgt	A. A. YOUNG	9 Sep 63	5 Sep 63	Dong Da
335076	Maj	B. R. TINKLER	23 Sep 63	16 Sep 63	Hiep Khanh
335092	Capt	J. B. HEALY	23 Sep 63	16 Sep 63	Danang

(5)

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Anex B to
AATTV Report No. 14

CASUALTIES

23510

Capt G. D. W. IRVINE

Gastro Intestinal Trouble

(6)

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HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES MILITARY ASSISTANCE COMMAND, VIETNAM
Office of the Commander
APO 143, San Francisco, California

MACJOO

26 SEP 1963

Colonel F. P. Serong, OBE
Commanding Officer
Australian Army Training Team, Vietnam

Dear Colonel Serong:

It gives me great pleasure to recognize, on the first anniversary of your service in the Republic of Vietnam, the splendid work that you and your fellow team members have accomplished during the past year.

The achievements of your unit in the mountain and jungle warfare training of Regular and Paramilitary forces have been most impressive. There is no question but that your team is making an outstanding contribution to the counter-insurgency effort in this country.

Needless to say I am quite proud to serve with individuals of such obvious professional competence, healthy attitude, and enthusiasm for the successful accomplishment of the job at hand.

You may be assured that the entire military community joins me in expressing sincere thanks, congratulations and best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

PAUL D. HARKINS
General, United States Army
Commander

ADVISOR DETACHMENT
HIEP KHANH CIVIL GUARD TRAINING CENTER
ADVISORY TEAM #6, APO 158
US FORCES

10 September 1963

SUBJECT: Letter of Appreciation

THRU: Commander Australian Army Training Team Vietnam
Headquarters Military Assistance Advisory Group
APO 143
U.S. Forces

TO: Major Barry R. Tinkler, 235076
Royal Australian Signals

1. On the eve of your departure from the Civil Guard Training Center at Hiep Khanh, South Vietnam I wish to express my gratitude for the exemplary manner in which you carried out your duties as Operations and Training Advisor from 10 August 1962 to 11 September 1963.

2. It has been my pleasure to have been associated with you during your assignment to Hiep Khanh. You have shown a fine awareness of the problems incident to the operational and training concepts in advising a friendly foreign army. You have accomplished much in improving the understanding and relationship between the Vietnamese Army, the United States and the Australian Armies. However, of even greater importance is the fine attitude of cooperation and understanding fostered between the Australian Army and the U.S. Army.

3. I especially wish to commend you for the speed and efficiency you displayed in recommending the implementation of the twelve and four week programs of instruction for the training center. Because of your firmness and consistent efforts the training conducted at Hiep Khanh has been the best possible.

4. You are a credit to the Australian Army and I feel that it will be difficult to replace you here at the Civil Guard Training Center.

5. I recommend that this letter become a part of your personal file.

VINCENT T VAN SICKEL
Lt Col Infantry
US Army Senior Adviser

MAGAR-OT (20 Sep 63)
SUBJECT: Letter of Commendation

1st Lt

ORGANIZATION AND TRAINING DIVISION, United States Army Section, Military Assistance Advisory Group Vietnam, APO 143, US Forces, 1 October 1963

THRU: Commander, Australian Army Training Team, Military Assistance Advisory Group, Vietnam, APO 143, US Forces

TO: Captain Kieth E. Stiepvish, 25316, Headquarters, Northern Command, Victoria Barracks, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

I am pleased to forward this letter of commendation from the Senior Advisor, Dong Da National Training Center. Your efforts have contributed immeasurably to the counter-insurgency program in South Vietnam and reflect great credit upon yourself and the Australian Army.

C. L. JACKSON
Colonel, Infantry
Chief

OFFICE OF THE SENIOR ADVISOR
DONG DA NATIONAL TRAINING CENTER
Advisory Team 5, APO 158
Pim Bai, Vietnam

11 September 1963

SUBJECT: Letter of Commendation

THRU: Commander
Australian Army Training Team
Adjutant Division
Headquarters, MAAG
Saigon, Vietnam

TO: Captain Keith E. Sticepich, 28316
Headquarters, Northern Command
Victoria Barracks, Brisbane
Queensland, Australia

1. Upon your departure from the Dong Da National Training Center, Republic of Vietnam, I wish to take this opportunity to commend you and express my sincere appreciation for the outstanding manner in which you have performed your assigned duties.

2. Your performance of duty as Chief, Tactics Committee, from August 1962 to September 1963, with this training center has been exceptional. You have accomplished your mission with tact and diplomacy, without giving unnecessary offense to your counterparts or co-workers. You have been loyal, and vigorous in the execution of all actions assigned you, and have set an example by your neat appearance and military bearing. Because of a language barrier between you and your counterparts, you have faced seemingly insurmountable problems, but through patience, perseverance, and self-improvement you have overcome them in a minimum amount of time.

3. It is with regret that we lose you, however, I wish you continued success in your future assignments, and should the opportunity present itself in the future, I would gladly accept you as a member of my command. Well done and good luck.

JOHN H. NEWELL
Lieutenant Colonel
Infantry, U.S. Army
Senior Advisor

MAGAR-OT (20 Sep 63)

Ed Incl

SUBJECT: Letter of Commendation

ORGANIZATION AND TRAINING DIVISION, United States Army Section, Military Assistance Advisory Group Vietnam, APO 143, US Forces, 1 October 1963

THRU: Commander, Australian Army Training Team, Military Assistance Advisory Group, Vietnam, APO 143, US Forces

TO: Captain Keith E. Sticewich, 28316, Headquarters, Northern Command, Victoria Barracks, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

1. It is with pleasure that I forward this letter of Commendation. Such an expression of appreciation by the Commandant, Dong Da National Training Center, Republic of Vietnam, is indicative of the energy, industry and initiative that you obviously applied to your mission.

2. Your devotion to duty and professional skill, demonstrated under the pressure of rapidly changing circumstances, have assisted materially in the accomplishment of a difficult task.

C. L. JACKSON
Colonel, Infantry
Chief

(20 September 1963)
SUBJECT: Letter of Commendation

1st Ind

21 September 1963

OFFICE OF THE SENIOR ADVISOR, DONG DA NATIONAL TRAINING CENTER, Advisory
Team 5, APO 158, San Francisco, California

THRU: Chief, O&T Division, U.S. Army Section, APO 143, San Francisco,
California

TO: Commander, Australian Army Training Team, Adjutant Division,
Headquarters, MAAG, APO 143, Saigon, Vietnam

1. It gives me great pleasure in forwarding this letter of commenda-
tion to Captain Kieth E. Sticpewich, Australian Army, from Major Vinh
Bieu, Commandant, Dong Da National Training Center, Republic of Vietnam.

2. Captain Sticpewich's outstanding performance of duty as Chief,
Tactics Committee, Dong Da National Training Center, has reflected great
credit upon himself and all the other Australian Army personnel assigned
to this training center.

JOHN H. NEWELL
Lt Col, Infantry
Senior Advisor



HEADQUARTERS
ĐÔNG ĐÀ TRAINING CENTER
PHÚ BÀI, - VIỆT NAM

-***-

AFPO. 4.162, 20th September 1963

SUBJECT : Letter of Commendation.
TO : Captain STICPEWICH, Keith E. 28316, Tactical
Committee Advisor at Đông Đà Training Center.
THROUGH : Lt Colonel NEWELL, John H. Senior Advisor
MAAG PHÚ BÀI.

Dear Captain STICPEWICH,

During the period from 6-8-1962 to 30-9-1963, you were appointed to the Đông Đà Training Center as an Advisor to the Tactical Committee.

In the above mentioned period of time, you, in application of your professional abilities and experiences, put on of your effort to cooperate and held this Training Center to fulfill its job.

In the domain of technique as well as specialists, your assistance resulted in outstanding successes. Your actions and the result achieved reflect great credit upon yourself, Officer of Australian Army.

In the name of all Officers, NCOs and EMS of the Training Center and myself, I sincerely thank you very much, and I wish you the best luck and happiness./.

VINH-BIỂU
Major
Commander Đông Đà Training
Center.



MACAR-OT (29 Aug 63) (Young, A.A.) 1st Ind
SUBJECT: Letter of Commendation

CHIEF, ORGANIZATION AND TRAINING DIVISION, UNITED STATES ARMY SECTION,
Military Assistance Advisory Group, Vietnam, APO 143, San Francisco,
California, 6 September 1963

THRU: Commander, Australian Army Training Team, Military Assistance
Advisory Group, Vietnam, APO 143, San Francisco, California

TO: Sergeant A. A. Young, 31707, 2RAR, Enoggera, Brisbane, Queens-
land, Australia

I am pleased to forward this letter of commendation from the
Senior Adviser Dong Da National Training Center, Republic of Vietnam.
Your efforts have contributed immeasurably to the counterinsurgency
program in South Vietnam and reflect great credit upon yourself and
the Australian Army Training Team.

C. L. JACKSON
Colonel, Infantry
Chief

OFFICE OF THE SENIOR ADVISOR
DODG DA NATIONAL TRAINING CENTER
Advisory Team 5, APO 158
San Francisco, California

29 August 1963

SUBJECT: Letter of Commendation

THRU: Commander
Australian Army Training Team
Adjutant Division
Headquarters, MAAB
Saigon, Vietnam

TO: Sergeant A. A. Young, 31707
2 RAB, Enoggera, Brisbane
Queensland, Australia

1. Upon your departure from the Dong Da National Training Center, Republic of Vietnam, I wish to take this opportunity to commend you and express my sincere appreciation for the outstanding manner in which you have performed your assigned duties.

2. Your performance of duty as an advisor, Weapons Committee, from August 1962 to August 1963, with this training center has been exceptional. You have accomplished your mission with tact and diplomacy, without giving unnecessary offense to your counterparts or co-workers. You have been loyal, and vigorous in the execution of all actions assigned you, and have set an example by your neat appearance and military bearing. Because of a language barrier between you and your counterparts, you have faced seemingly insurmountable problems, but through patience, perseverance, and self-improvement you have overcome them in a minimum amount of time.

3. It is with regret that we lose you, however, I wish you continued success in your future assignments, and should the opportunity present itself in the future, I would gladly accept you as a member of my command. Well done and good luck.

JOHN H. HENRI
Lieutenant Colonel
Infantry, U.S. Army
Senior Advisor

HACAR-OT (29 Aug 63) (A. A. Young) 2d Ind
SUBJECT: Letter of Commendation

CHIEF, ORGANIZATION AND TRAINING DIVISION, UNITED STATES ARMY SECTION,
Military Assistance Advisory Group, Vietnam, APO 143, San Francisco,
California, 6 September 1963

THRU: Commander, Australian Army Training Team, Military Assistance
Advisory Group, Vietnam, APO 143, San Francisco, California

TO: Sergeant A. A. Young, 31707, RRAR, Enoggera, Brisbane, Queens-
land, Australia

1. It is with pleasure that I forward this letter of commendation. Such an expression of appreciation from Major Vinh Bieh, Commander, Dong Da National Training Center, is indicative of the energy, initiative and industry that you have obviously applied to your mission.

2. Your actions reflect credit upon yourself, the training efforts in Vietnam and upon the other Australian Army personnel assigned.

C. L. JACKSON
Colonel, Infantry
Chief

(29 August 1963)

1st Ind

30 August 1963

SUBJECT: Letter of Commendation

OFFICE OF THE SENIOR ADVISOR, DONG DA NATIONAL TRAINING CENTER, Advisory
Team 5, APO 156, San Francisco, California

THRU: Chief, G&T Division, U.S. Army Section, APO 143, San Francisco,
California

TO: Commander, Australian Army Training Team, Adjutant Division,
Headquarters, MAAG, APO 143, Saigon, Vietnam

1. It gives me great pleasure in forwarding this letter of commenda-
tion to Sergeant A. A. Young, Australian Army, from Major Vinh Bieu,
Commander, Dong Da National Training Center, Republic of Vietnam.

2. Sergeant Young's outstanding performance of duty with the
Weapons Committee, Dong Da National Training Center, has reflected
great credit upon himself and all the other Australian Army personnel
assigned to this training center.

JOHN H. NEWELL
Lt Col, Infantry
Senior Advisor

HEADQUARTER
ĐỒNG ĐÀ TRAINING CENTER
PHU BAI - VIETNAM

AFPO. 4.162, 29th August 1963

SUBJECT : Letter of Commendation.
TO : Sgt YOUNG, A. A. 31707 Advisor of Weapons
Committee Đồng Đà Training Center.
THROUGH : Lt Colonel NEWELL, John H. Senior Advisor
MAAG Phu Bai.

Dear Sgt YOUNG,

During the period from 6-8-1962 to 9-9-1963, you were appointed to the Đồng Đà Training Center as an Advisor to the Weapons Committee.

In the above-mentioned period of time, you, in application of your professional abilities and experiences, put on of your effort to cooperate and help this Training Center to fulfill its job.

In the domain of technique as well as specialists your assistance resulted in outstanding successes. Your actions and the result achieved reflect great credit upon yourself, and the Australian Army.

In the name of all Officers, NCOs and EMS of the Training Center and myself, I sincerely congratulate you on your activities and accomplishments.

VINH-BIEU
Major
Commander Đồng Đà Training
Center,

REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM

GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF CG & SDC
attached to

PRESIDENCY OFFICE

DIRECTION OF CG & SDC - 1st TAC ZONE

HIEP KHANH CIVIL GUARD TRAINING CENTER

No 763/TTHL/HK.

KBC.6020, 3/Sept/1963.

Capt BUI KHAC CAO
Commander of CG Training Center * HIEP KHANH

To:

AUSTRALIAN ADVISORY DETACHMENT

HIEP-KHANH

I

I have the honor to be Commander of Training Center Hiep-Khanh and also very proud to cooperate with your Detachment.

By the Superiors' orders, I am going to leave this Center to another unit.

Through the last training cycles, you have proved a very high spirit, an outstanding capability in order to help and cooperate with us in the technical points and thanks to that precious help, the training here has obtained many good results. One of the most remarkable cases as the one of Major TINKLER, Capt GOLLINGS and Sgt PINCOTT.

I greatly admire and congratulate your Team. I can surely guarantee with you that the CG units who are being trained at Hiep-Khanh Training Center will be the best combat units, Conquerors of battlefields; they will win over Communists. Those units have concentrated the soldiers who have been trained by wholehearted and "sweaty" cooperation of your men.

Before leaving here for another mission, sincerely I wish your Team would gather many successful results in the future. B

BUI KHAC CAO, Comd
CG Training Centre,
HIEP KHANH.