

**Series: AWM95**  
Australian Army commanders' diaries  
[Vietnam]

Miscellaneous units

**Item number: 17/6/17**

**Item: 1 Australian Reinforcement  
Unit**

Narrative

Annex

[1-31 Oct 1967]



COVERING LETTER

Reference No. ....

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.

*M. K. ...*  
(Signature)

Appointment *OC 1 ARK*  
(OC Unit or senior staff officer)

Receipt  
forwarded

**SECRET**

ORIGINAL  
DUPLICATE

Strike out where  
not applicable

**COMMANDERS DIARY**

OF

1 Aust Rft Unit

Unit or Formation

From 1 Oct 67

To 31 Oct 67

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

- 1 to .....
- 2 to .....
- 3 to .....
- 4 to .....

\* Only to be included during operations.  
† Cross out whichever is not applicable.

† ~~NIL~~  
† ~~RETAINED~~  
† Despatched to AHQ  
on 2 NOV 67



# 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 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

## ANNEXES

as well as map references), establishment, equipment

and orders given.

of the day's fighting, including company movements.

of the commander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

of potential importance.

of officers, men and equipment.

of equipment captured.

of equipment employed in the time not accounted for. The type of

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

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

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DISPOSAL

13. **Original Commander's Diary.** This is to be forwarded monthly, unless otherwise ordered, by the seventh day of the succeeding month direct to AHQ.

14. **Duplicate Commander's Diary.** This must be clearly marked as a duplicate. It is to be sent separately from the original to AHQ one month after the original has been despatched but not before the former has been acknowledged.

15. When overseas, both copies of diaries are to be sent through the Army Records organization in the overseas theatre but at different times.

16. **TOP SECRET Supplementary Diaries.**

a. The documents referred to in Paragraph 9 together with a list of them made out on AF C 2118 (Adapted) must be placed in separate cover (AF C 2119) (Adapted). All details must be filled in and the cover clearly marked in red: "ANNEX Z — OFFICER ONLY". It may be convenient to group the papers by appendices.

b. Supplementary diaries must be forwarded under the normal rules for TOP SECRET correspondence, to AHQ. The inner envelope must be plainly marked:

TOP SECRET  
ANNEX Z to

Commanders Diary of.....(Formation or Unit)  
From.....to..... (Dates)

c. The duplicate supplementary diaries must be despatched as shown in Paragraph 14 as soon as receipt of the original has been acknowledged.

COMPILATION

- 6. Both original and duplicate copies are to consist of:  
a. Cover (AF C 2119) (Adapted).  
b. Index as printed on cover.  
c. Narrative (AF C 2118) (Adapted).  
d. Annexes as shown in the index.

7. All details of the unit or formation (if a detachment is concerned, the name of the parent unit) being 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 annexes for the cover, the cover is to be marked accordingly. If additional annexes are convenient for a particular day's operations, starting at B.

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

INDEX

a. as well as any other information of importance  
b. orders given  
c. day's fighting  
d. material with regard to capture, loss, etc. of equipment

essential information.  
e. officers, men and equipment.  
f. material captured.  
g. employed in the time not accounted for. The type of

and to give work as much information as possible is to include items issued and received, routine returns, etc. All such items are to be given the date of receipt or despatch as to be given.

h. annexes, but need not give a précis of any of them.

(continued on back cover)

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[17/6/04 67]



This form is to be enclosed with the annexures in AF-C2119 (Adapted)

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

ENCL 1 AF-C2118 (Adapted)

Month and Year... **Oct 67** .....

Reference Map... **1:25000** .....

Unit Formation... **1 ARU** .....

Commanding Officer... **Capt P.A. JENCH** .....

Place and Grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and Enclosure number
.....	1 Oct	.....	NTR	.....
.....	2 Oct	.....	OP VANIMO commenced	.....
.....	3 Oct	.....	NTR	.....
.....	4 Oct	.....	NTR	.....
.....	5 Oct	.....	NTR	.....
.....	6 Oct	.....	NTR	.....
.....	7 Oct	.....	NTR	.....
.....	8 Oct	.....	NTR	.....
.....	9 Oct	.....	NTR	.....
.....	10 Oct	.....	2Lt M.P. CHARLES marched in	.....
.....	11 Oct	.....	NTR	.....
.....	12 Oct	.....	NTR	.....
.....	13 Oct	.....	2Lt S.H. CAMPBELL detached to 2RAR	.....
.....	14 Oct	.....	NTR	.....
.....	15 Oct	.....	NTR	.....
.....	16 Oct	.....	NTR	.....



This form is to be enclosed with the annexures in AF-C2119 (Adapted)

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

ENCL 2 AF-C2118 (Adapted)

Month and Year.....  
Oct 67

Reference Map..... 1 : 25000

Unit Formation ..... 1 ARU

Commanding Officer Capt P.A. MENCH

Place and Grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and Enclosure number
	17 Oct		NTR	
	18 Oct		NTR	
	19 Oct		NTR	
	20 Oct		NTR	
	21 Oct		NTR	
	22 Oct		2Lt G.R.HOLLOWAY marched in	
	23 Oct		NTR	
	24 Oct		2Lt P.Z.VINCENT marched out. Coy to AP SUGI NE as part of op SANTA FE.	
	25 Oct		NTR	
	26 Oct		Maj W.N.LUNN marched in. Det to 7RAR for in country trg	
	27 Oct		Lt I.N.TURNER marched out	
	28 Oct		NTR	
	29 Oct		NTR	
	30 Oct		NTR	
	31 Oct		NTR	

NTR  
 ARU CONDUCTED 9 PATROLS OF UP TO PL STRENGTH IN THE  
 TF TAOR FOR THE MONTH. (ENCL 4)



RESTRICTED1 ARU  
NUI DAT

R798-1-2

25 Sep 67

3/48 ARVN REFRESHER TRAINING  
OPERATION VANIMOIntroduction

1. 1 ARU has been allocated the task of conducting refresher training for 3/48 ARVN battalion located in the DAT DO district.

Conduct

2. Training is to be conducted in TWO phases :-

a. Phase 1

- (1) Weapon Training
- (2) Shooting
- (3) Navigation
- (4) Demolitions

b. Phase 2

- (1) Minor Tactics to platoon level
- (2) Fieldcraft

3. ONE company is to be trained at a time. Phase 1 for the complete battalion is to be completed prior to commencement of phase 2.

4. Where possible training will be conducted close to Company bases. Range and training facilities within 3/48 TAOR are to be used.

Concept of Instruction

5. The organic 3/48 chain of command is to be maintained. Company officers and NCO's are to attend training and assist as required. Non cooperation and disciplinary irregularities are to be referred to the US Advisory Team.

Instructional Team

6. The 1 ARU Instructional Team is additionally organised as a demonstration squad. The team consists of:-

- a. Officer in charge
- b. Interpreter (Lt)
- c. Chief Instructor
- d. Platoon Instructors (3)
- e. Squad Instructors (6)

/..2

RESTRICTED



RESTRICTED

- 2 -

Syllabus

7. The outline syllabus is attached as Annex A.

Coordination

8. Matters pertaining to routine administration and organisation of the training program are to be referred to the US Advisory Team.
9. Matters of policy, ground clearances and any extraordinary matters are to be referred to 1 ATF (GSO 3).

Interpreters

10. 5 Interpreters are to be allocated on a permanent basis.

Communications

11. The Instructional Team is to be on listening watch on the Horseshoe Coy internal frequency using 1 ARU Comd Net C/S suffixed by ALPHA.

Administration

12. Ammunition. Training ammunition is to be provided by 3/48 ARVN.
13. The instructional team are authorised to carry US personal weapons.
14. Accommodation. When required the Instructional Team is to be accommodated at Horseshoe Company.
15. Transportation. Normal means of transportation is by vehicle. Single vehicles are NOT to travel.
16. Hours of Work. Hours of work are as follows:-
- a. 0800 hrs - 1100 hrs
  - b. 1300 hrs - 1630 hrs
17. Medical. A medical kit is to be carried by the Instructional Team. DUSTOFF for AUSTRALIAN casualties will be on request to Horseshoe Company.

*P.A. Mench*  
(P.A.MENCH)  
Capt  
OC  
1 ARU

Annexures : A. Outline Syllabus  
B. Provisional Training Program

Distribution

List A and F

Copy To

D Comd  
C Coy 2 RAR  
Sector  
Sub Sector DAT DO (2)  
3/48 ARVN (2)

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ANNEX 'A' TO 3/48 ARVN  
REFRESHER TRAINING - OPERATION  
VANIMO

3/48 ARVN REFRESHER TRAINING  
Phase 1 Syllabus

DAY	SUBJECT	REMARKS
Day 1	MI. MI Carbine Safety Precautions Stripping and Assembly Load and Unload Immediate Action Holding, Aiming and Firing	NOT formal lessons Instrs to assess standard of training and correct faults. Conclude with Relay Races and introduction to TsOET.
Day 2	BAR. As above  Range Practice - Personal Weapons - Zeroing and Grouping Practice TsOET MI MI Carbine BAR	Both activities concurrent  30 rounds per man
Day 3	Range Practice  a. 0-300 metres personal weapons b. Sneaker course c. Shooting gallery	Concurrent Activity 80 rounds per man. MI MI - 120 rounds BAR Carbine
Day 4	M26 Grenade Practice M79 Shoot Inter Platoon Competition Shoot. M1. M1 Carbine BAR	
Day 5/6	Navigation - including Grid References, Conventional Signs, Cardinal Points, Setting a Compass, Pacing.  Demolition Training	Squad commanders and above  Selected personnel only

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3/48 ARVN REFRESHER TRAINING  
Phase 2 Syllabus

DAY	SUBJECT	REMARKS
Day 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Composition of Squad. incl<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. dress</li><li>b. equipment</li><li>c. weapons</li></ol></li><li>2. Squad Formations.<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Staggered File</li><li>b. Arrowhead</li><li>c. Extended Line</li></ol></li><li>3. Basic Field Signals</li><li>4. Scouting, Arcs of Fire (weapon carriage and alertness)</li></ol>	Demonstration Squad  Practice Squad and Platoon Movement
Day 2	Contact Drill. Contact Front Contact Rear Ambush Left Ambush Right	
Day 3	Squad Fire and Movement - Live Firing	
Day 4	Squad and (Platoon) Attack - Live Firing	
Day 5	Harbouring and Defence Positions - Posting of sentries Security and Noise Discipline Siting of Claymores	

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ANNEX 'B' TO 3/48 ARVN  
REFRESHER TRAINING - OPERATION  
VANIMO

PROVISIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM

	Oct				Nov			
	2 - 7	9 - 14	16 - 21	23 - 28	30 - 3	5 - 9	11 - 15	17 - 21
HQ Coy				Phase 1				Phase 2
3/3/48			Phase 1				Phase 2	
2/3/48		Phase 1				Phase 2		
1/3/48	Phase 1				Phase 2			

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SECRET  
PATROL REPORT

1 ARU 43/67  
(Designation of Patrol)

1 OCT 67  
(Date)

To Areas PETER & BRIAN

Maps:

1:25,000 pictorial

A. Size and Composition of Patrol: Platoon (22-1)

B. Task: Search by DAY and ambush by NIGHT - Areas PETER & BRIAN

C. Time of Departure: 1600 hrs

D. Time of Return: 1600 hrs

E. Routes (out and in): OUT: YS 437695 to feature 72 to clearing YS 484690. IN: YS 482694 to YS 461693 to YS 444690.

F. Terrain: Very thick secondary and bamboo, rocky in most places.

G. En: Encountered 1 woodcutter at YS 482694, on apprehension heard more cutting. Rounded up 8 others. Were cutting sticks 2'6" to 3' long, presume panjis. 5 males, 4 females wearing black uniforms and ARVN canvas boots. All had cutters 'carrying sticks' and Rope.

H. Any Map Corrections: Creek at YS 463694 flowing SOUTH.

I. Miscellaneous Info: On move in found tracks at YS 461693 running SOUTH - NORTH along edge of clearing. The tracks were made on the morning of 2 OCT by approx 3 people, 2 with sandshoes, 1 barefoot. (very small presume childs). Prints were very clear on hard ground.

J. Results of encounter with En: Patrol returned the 9 people to DIV INT.

K. Condition of Ptl: Good

3 OCT 67  
(Date)

D.H. Sandall  
(Patrol Comdr)



SECRET

1 ARUPATROL REPORT

1 ARU 45/67

4 Oct 67

(Designation of Patrol)

(Date)

To 1 ATF

Maps:

A. Size and Composition of Patrol: Pl Patrol  
(1 - 26)

B. Task: Patrol through areas PETER & FRED and lay 2  
ambushes over the two nights.

C. Time of Departure: 041430

D. Time of Return: 061030

E. Routes (out and in): D Coy 7 RAR.

F. Terrain: Very slow going just this side and other side  
NUI DAT 2.

G. En: 6 civilians encountered at YS 486667. Incident reported.  
All personell set free. List attached of names & ID Nos.  
2 civies encountered at YS 456676. Names & ID Card Nos  
attached.

H. Any Map Corrections: Nil

I. Miscellaneous Info: At YS 489675 an unexploded CBU was found.  
An old destroyed en tunnel system found at YS 467675, near-  
by was a hutchi and ration tins with 4 M1 carbine mags  
in it.

J. Results of encounter with En: N/A

K. Condition of Ptl: Good.

6 OCT 67  
(Date)

  
(Patrol Comdr) 21t



LIST 'A' - Found at YS 486667

1. 077288 Lý - Vả - Qu<sup>^</sup>an
2. 040800 Tran - Van - Khai
3. - Ly - Bang (chieu Hoi)
4. 077288 Ly - Van - Quan
5. 077196 Ly - Van - Hong
6. 040478 Vo Thi Ai

All above from LONG TAN

LIST 'B' - Found at YS 456676

1. 063724 Luong - Thi - Ho
2. 063724 Nguyen - Thi - Tho

BOTH  
All from new hamlet.



SECRET  
PATROL REPORT

5 Oct 67

1 ARU 44/67  
(Designation of Patrol)

(Date)

To Area JOYCE

Maps:

- A. Size and Composition of Patrol: 1 offr, 30 OR
- B. Task: Search by day and ambush by night in area JOYCE
- C. Time of Departure: 030900H
- D. Time of Return: 041700H
- E. Routes (out and in): 1 ARU to 437692 by truck brg 4700 mills to GR 401695. out Brg 1800 mills to GR 437692 to 1 ARU truck
- F. Terrain: Undulating. Thick secondary growth.
- G. En: NIL
- H. Any Map Corrections: NIL
- I. Miscellaneous Info: Small hut containing 36 plastic water bottles located GR 400701. Hut was destroyed and bottles brought back with ptl.
- J. Results of encounter with En: NIL
- K. Condition of Ptl: Good

5 Oct 67  
(Date)

*[Signature]* (Lt)  
(Patrol Comdr)



SECRET  
PATROL REPORT

Y ARU 46/67

6 Oct 67

.....  
(Designation of Patrol)

.....  
(Date)

**Area LINDA**

T# .....

Maps:

**1/2 Pl 15 + 1**

A. Size and Composition of Patrol: .....

B. Task: ..... **Search by day and ambush by night in area LINDA.**

.....

.....

.....

C. Time of Departure: ..... **0900H**

D. Time of Return: ..... **0730H**

E. Routes (out and in): ..... **Out A Sqn 3 Cav to by-pass to SONG**

..... **CAU IS 406661.**

..... **In IS 406669 to by-pass to A Sqn 3 Cav**

.....

F. Terrain: ..... **ROUTES - very open. Area LINDA, secondary growth**

..... **with occasional small clearings.**

.....

G. En: ..... **Nil**

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

H. Any Map Corrections: ..... **N/A**

.....

.....

I. Miscellaneous Info: ..... **Nil**

.....

.....

.....

.....

J. Results of encounter with En: ..... **Nil**

.....

.....

K. Condition of Ptl: ..... **Good**

.....

.....

..... **10 Oct 67**

.....

(Date) ..... **Dr. W. J. ...**  
(Patrol Comdr)



SECRET  
PATROL REPORT

1 ARU 47/67

9 Oct 67

(Designation of Patrol)

(Date)

To Areas MIKE & FRED

Maps: 1: 25000 Picto

1 offr, 30 OR

A. Size and Composition of Patrol:

B. Task: Search by day and ambush by night in area MIKE & FRED.

C. Time of Departure: 071430H

D. Time of Return: 090830H

E. Routes (out and in): 1 ARU to D Coy 2 RAR (track) bearing 1700 mils to GR 463667 - Brg 4900 mils to D Coy 2 RAR. D Coy to 1 ARU by truck.

F. Terrain: Undulating country, rubber with secondary growth and bananas.

G. En: NIL

H. Any Map Corrections: NIL

I. Miscellaneous Info: 5 male children (all under 16 yrs) apprehended - were caring for 26 water buffalo. All from LONG PHOUC. They were sent from area. Tracks in area indicate that civilians go into area.

J. Results of encounter with En: NIL

K. Condition of Ptl: Good

9 Oct 67  
(Date)

*[Signature]*  
(Patrol Comdr)



SECRET  
PATROL REPORT

ARU 49/67  
.....  
(Designation of Patrol)

12 Oct 67  
.....  
(Date)

T# ..... 1 ATF .....

Maps: Picto Sup 1:25000

A. Size and Composition of Patrol: 1 and 21 .....

B. Task: Ptl. by day, ambush by night areas BOO & BRIAN .....

C. Time of Departure: 101400H .....

D. Time of Return: 120830H .....

E. Routes (out and in): As per trace .....

F. Terrain: Undulating thick secondary growth .....

G. En: Nil .....

H. Any Map Corrections: No .....

I. Miscellaneous Info: Nil .....

J. Results of encounter with En: Nil .....

K. Condition of Ptl: 2 pers casevae suffering from high  
temperature, high pulse rate, vomitting and disimfess.

12 Oct 67  
.....  
(Date)

*J. D. Durrer* (Lt)  
(Patrol Comdr)



SECRET  
PATROL REPORT

14 Oct 67

1 ARU 50/67  
.....  
(Designation of Patrol)

.....  
(Date)

To Area 'PAT' .....

Maps:

1/2 Platoon

A. Size and Composition of Patrol: .....

B. Task: Ambush in area 'PAT' .....

C. Time of Departure: 141700 Hrs .....

D. Time of Return: 150800 Hrs .....

E. Routes (out and in): TCV's to area 'PAT' as per Annex 'R' .....

Ptl Task Table

F. Terrain: Rubber .....

G. En: Nil .....

H. Any Map Corrections: Nil .....

I. Miscellaneous Info: Nil .....

J. Results of encounter with En: N/A .....

K. Condition of Ptl: Good .....

16 Oct 67

.....  
(Date)

Sgt  
*J. Lillman*  
(Patrol Comdr)



SECRET  
PATROL REPORT

1 ARU 52/67

17 Oct

(Designation of Patrol)

(Date)

To Area SEAN

Maps: 1 : 25000

A. Size and Composition of Patrol: Platoon (34 + 1)

B. Task: Ambush in area SEAN

C. Time of Departure: 1600 hrs

D. Time of Return: 0800 hrs

E. Routes (out and in): Out: South to outskirts of village then WEST to Route 52 at Northern tip of SEAN. In: Moved SW down Route 52 to Western tip of SEAN then headed NORTH.

F. Terrain: Mainly open with banana and secondary

G. En: Nil

H. Any Map Corrections: Nil

I. Miscellaneous Info: Nil

J. Results of encounter with En: Nil

K. Condition of Ptl: Good

18 Oct 67  
(Date)

*Shaw* 218  
(Patrol Comdr)



SECRET  
PATROL REPORT

.....53/67.....  
(Designation of Patrol)

18 Oct 67  
(Date)

To .. AREA "PAT" .....

Maps:

A. Size and Composition of Patrol: 1/2 Platoon .....

B. Task: NIGHT AMBUSH AREA "PAT" .....

C. Time of Departure: 181800 .....

D. Time of Return: 190700 .....

E. Routes (out and in): AS PER ANNEX "R" PTL TASK TABLE .....

F. Terrain: RUBBER .....

G. En: NIL .....

H. Any Map Corrections: NIL .....

I. Miscellaneous Info: NIL .....

J. Results of encounter with En: N/A .....

K. Condition of Ptl: GOOD .....

19 Oct 67  
(Date)

*J. Lillman*  
(Patrol Comdr)