

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
Royal Australian Armoured Corps

Item number: 2/4/17

**Item: A Squadron 3 Cavalry
Regiment**

Narrative

1-30 June 1968

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.

(Signature).....

Appointment.....
(OC Unit or senior staff officer)

SECRET

ORIGINAL } Strike out where
DUPLICATE } not applicable

COMMANDERS DIARY

OF

Unit or Formation A SQN 3 CAV REGT

From 1 JUNE 68 To 30 JUNE 68

INDEX

Narrative (AF C 2118)

ANNEXES

- * A Duty officer's log
- * B Messages connected with log
- C Operation orders and instructions issued
- D Operation orders and instructions received
- * E Sitreps issued
- F Orders of battle and location reports issued
- G Intelligence reports and summaries issued; appreciations made
- H Administrative orders and instructions issued
- I Administrative orders and instructions received
- J Administrative reports and bulletins; ammunition returns; field strength returns
- * K Standing orders issued
- L Commander's policy and demi-official letters
- M Action reports (if required)
- N Other papers, eg, maps and diagrams, air photos, reports from sub units
- O Periodical summaries of operations
- Z Top Secret Supplementary Diary

Enclosure Numbers

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† NIL
† RETAINED
† Despatched to

on.....

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

Receipt
79 JAN 1971

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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, the relevant papers should be grouped as annexes starting at B.

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

CONTENTS

names as well as map references), establishment, equipment and orders given. of the day's fighting, including company movements. commander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

potential importance. s to officers, men and equipment. quipment captured. as employed in the time not accounted for. The type of

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

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

(continued on back cover)

COMMA **DISPOSAL** ENDS

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.

COMPLATION

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

2. All details of the diary formation (if applicable) and the name of the person who compiled the diary and enclosure numbers of the original and duplicate copies must be given. If there has been a change of command since the last report, the date of change and the name of the commanding officer is to be included.

3. The entries are to be assembled in the groups shown on the cover. If there are no entries for a particular day, NIL will be entered on the cover. If applicable, entries are to be made for a particular day, the original papers should be grouped as annexes starting at A.

4. The original and duplicate copies are to be prepared and signed off as follows:

- a. The original copy is to be prepared and signed off as follows:
 - (1) By the operations logs Annex "Z", "TOP SECRET" on the document. It is to be prepared and signed off as follows:
 - (a) By the operations logs Annex "Z", "TOP SECRET" on the document.

SYSTEMS

5. The entries are to be prepared and signed off as follows:

- a. The original copy is to be prepared and signed off as follows:
 - (1) By the operations logs Annex "Z", "TOP SECRET" on the document. It is to be prepared and signed off as follows:
 - (a) By the operations logs Annex "Z", "TOP SECRET" on the document.

6. The entries are to be prepared and signed off as follows:

- a. The original copy is to be prepared and signed off as follows:
 - (1) By the operations logs Annex "Z", "TOP SECRET" on the document. It is to be prepared and signed off as follows:
 - (a) By the operations logs Annex "Z", "TOP SECRET" on the document.

AWM 95
[2/4/June 68]

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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR Jun 68

REFERENCE MAP YS-YT

UNIT/FORMATION A Sqn 2 Cav Regt

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj J D KELDIE

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
LONG BINH YT0611	28 Jun		Sqn continued to support operations in AO BIRDSVILLE and AO MARLIN without contact. Locations unchanged.	
LONG BINH YT0611	29 Jun		Locations unchanged. 1 Tp provided sect for protection of PSPB HOTEL YT102207. Established to support H RAR ops in AO BIRDSVILLE	
LONG BINH YT0611	30 Jun		Sqn continued in AO BIRDSVILLE without contact. 2 Tps concluded operations with C Sqn 1 ARMO in AO B MARLIN and returned to IATF Base	

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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR *Jun 68*

REFERENCE MAP *YT*

UNIT/FORMATION *A Sqn 3rd Regt*

COMMANDING OFFICER *Maj J O KERDIE*

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
<i>LONG BINH YT 0611</i>	<i>25 Jun</i>		<i>SHQ remained LONG BINH 1 Tp opcon 4RAR ab FSPB CONCORD YT 0317 2 Tp 1 ATF Base 3 Td opcon 1RAR FSPB KIAMA YT 0914</i>	
<i>LONG BINH</i>	<i>26 Jun</i>		<i>Sqn continued operations in AO BIROSVILLE without contact. Locations unchanged 2 Td commenced operations in AO MARLIN centre of mass YS 2570 with CSqn 1 ARMO REGT</i>	
<i>LONG BINH</i>	<i>27 Jun</i>		<i>Op TEAN THANG continued without contact. Troops unempld sitting in respective FSPB. 2 Td continued in AO MARLIN with CSqn 1 ARMO 1 Sec 6 with CSqn engaged 12 motorized sampans in vicinity YS 24788. Eleven sampans destroyed carrying mainly rice although one did explode when engaged by the tanks</i>	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR *Jun 68*

REFERENCE MAP *VS*

UNIT/FORMATION *A Sqn Cav Regt*

COMMANDING OFFICER *Major J.D. KELDIE*

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
<i>IATF Base</i>	<i>22 Jun</i>		<i>Sqn (-) remained IATF Base. 1 Tp conducted training and lectures for platoon from IARU. 2 Tps assisted in a cordon and search of a sector of LONG DIEN VS 437598. Major Keldie moved to LONG BINH in preparation for move of Sqn North.</i>	
<i>IATF Base</i>	<i>23 Jun</i>		<i>Sqn (-) remained IATF Base.</i>	
<i>LONG BINH YT 0611</i>	<i>24 Jun</i>		<i>Sqn (-) escorted a convoy to LONG BINH. 1 Tp remained in 40 BIRDSVILLE as sp of 4RAR. 2 Tps returned to IATF Base. 3 Tp continued opcon to 1RAR. SHQ located at LONG BINH with HQ IATF. Major KELDIE responsible for local defence and coordination of area development.</i>	

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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR *Jun 68*

REFERENCE MAP *YS*

UNIT/FORMATION *A Sqn 3rd Regt*

COMMANDING OFFICER *Major J D KERRIE*

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	<i>19 Jun</i>		<i>Sqn (→) remained IATF Base 1Tp servicing vehicles and completing Sqn tasks 2Tp conducted escort of 1 Fd Sqn vehicles to LONG BINH and return 3Tp continued Op TEAN THANG</i>	
	<i>20 Jun</i>		<i>Sqn (→) remained IATF Base 1Tp moved to YS 304632 to collect elements of HRAR and returned to IATF Base 1330hrs 2Tp commenced short period of familiarization on vehicles for IARV OC attended Orders Group for move North to LONG BINH to commence Op TEAN THANG Phase 2</i>	
	<i>21 Jun</i>		<i>Sqn (→) remained IATF Base 1Tp assisted in extraction of HRAR East of IATF Base 3Tp continued Op on IARV</i>	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR *Jun 68*

REFERENCE MAP *YS*

UNIT/FORMATION *A Sqn 3rd Av Regt*

COMMANDING OFFICER *Major J D KELDIE*

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
<i>1 ATF Base</i>	<i>16 Jun</i>		<i>5HQ and 1Tp returned from R&C 2Tp opcon 4RAR for Op BULLER. Mission:- To destroy known enemy camps at YS 436779 and YS 427771 and destroy other camps within the area 3Tp continued Op TOAN THANG</i>	
<i>1 ATF BASE</i>	<i>17 Jun</i>		<i>Sqn(-) remained 1 ATF Base 1Tp commenced training with W Coy 4RAR CasO of 1 ATF Base 2Tp returned to Base 3Tp continued TOAN THANG without contact</i>	
<i>1 ATF BASE</i>	<i>18 Jun</i>		<i>1Tp continued with W Coy and CSqn 1 ARMD REGT 2Tp remained 1 ATF Base 3Tp continued Op TOAN THANG Phase 1</i>	

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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR *Jun 68*

REFERENCE MAP *YS*

UNIT/FORMATION *A Sqn 3rd W Regt*

COMMANDING OFFICER *Maj J.D. KELDIE*

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
<i>1 ATF BASE</i>	<i>13 Jun</i>		<i>Sqn(-) remained 1 ATF Base</i>	
			<i>2 Tp returned from R&C VUNG TAU</i>	
<i>KIAMA YTC914</i>			<i>3 Tp commenced Operation TOAN THANG Phase 1</i>	
			<i>Moved to FSPB KIAMA with Coy of 1RAR</i>	
<i>1 ATF BASE</i>	<i>14 Jun</i>		<i>SHQ and 1 Tp moved to VUNG TAU on leave</i>	
			<i>at the R&C centre</i>	
			<i>2 Tp remained 1 ATF Base</i>	
			<i>3 Tp continued under opcon 1RAR at FSPB KIAMA</i>	
			<i>YT 0914</i>	
<i>1 ATF BASE</i>	<i>15 Jun</i>		<i>SHQ and 1 Tp continued R&C at VUNG TAU</i>	
			<i>2 Tp commenced OP KOSCIUSKO under opcon 4RAR</i>	
			<i>Used to secure landing zone with A Coy 4RAR</i>	
			<i>security YS 3371.</i>	
			<i>3 Tp continued OP TOAN THANG Phase 1 from</i>	
			<i>FSPB KIAMA.</i>	

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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)
Revised Jun, 196

MONTH AND YEAR *June 68*

REFERENCE MAP *XT*

UNIT/FORMATION *A Sqn 2 Cav Regt*

COMMANDING OFFICER *Major J. D. KELDIE*

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
<i>1 ATF Base</i>	<i>8 June</i>		<i>The Sqn remained at 1 ATF Base. The morning was spent in cleaning up the Sqn area in preparation for the Prime Ministers visit at 1200 hrs.</i>	
<i>1 ATF BASE</i>	<i>9 June</i>		<i>Day spent servicing vehicles.</i>	
<i>1 ATF Base</i>	<i>10 June</i>		<i>Servicing of vehicles continued. 3Tps commenced training operations to west of 1 ATF Base with 1Tp CSqn and elements of 4RAR.</i>	
<i>1 ATF Base</i>	<i>11 June</i>		<i>Sqn (2) remained 1 ATF Base. 2Tps commenced R&C 3Tp continued training west of 1 ATF Base with 1Tp CSqn and elements of 4RAR.</i>	
<i>1 ATF BASE</i>	<i>12 Jun</i>		<i>Sqn (2) remained 1 ATF BASE 2Tps continued R&C at VUNG TAU 3Tp moved to BARIA to react to a suspected attack</i>	

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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR *June 68*

REFERENCE MAP *XT*

UNIT/FORMATION *A Sqn 2 Cav Regt*

COMMANDING OFFICER *Major J. O. KELDIE*

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
<i>FSPB CORAL XT 9329</i>	<i>6 June</i>		<i>3 Tps departed with the first convoy at 1330 hrs Destination IATF Base SHQ, 1 Tps and 2 Tps are to stage overnight at BEARCAT. 1 Tps departed FSPB CORAL at 1530 hrs 2 Tps escorting A Bty 2/35 Arty (US) departed at 1600 hrs. SHQ were last to leave escorting three vehicles at 1630 hrs. Convoy complete at BEARCAT by 1850 hrs.</i>	
<i>BEARCAT YT 1600</i>	<i>7 June</i>		<i>2 Tps, the first convoy to leave departed 0800 Uneventful run to IATF Base. Squadron complete at IATF Base by 1200 hrs.</i>	

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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR *June 68*

REFERENCE MAP *XT*

UNIT/FORMATION *A Sqn 9 Cav Regt*

COMMANDING OFFICER *Major J. O. KELDIE*

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
<i>FSPB CORAL XT 9329</i>	<i>5 June</i>		<i>Quiet night. SHQ and 1Tp remained at CORAL 2Tp abandoned FSPB BALMORA and moved to FSPB CORAL in preparation for move back to IATF Base 3Tp escorting a convoy moved to BEARCAT</i>	
<i>FSPB CORAL</i>	<i>6 Jun</i>	<i>1040</i>	<i>SHQ remained at FSPB CORAL organizing convoy move to IATF Base 1Tp requesting route 16 from CORAL to TAN UYEN One vehicle from 1Tp detonated a mine resulting in the crew commander being evacuated. The vehicle was extensively damaged and had to be recovered 3Tp arrived at CORAL from BEARCAT at 0930 hrs Problems were encountered marshalling the convoy due to the boggy condition of the ground at FSPB CORAL</i>	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR *June 68*

REFERENCE MAP *XT*

UNIT/FORMATION *A Sqn 2nd Av Reg 6*

COMMANDING OFFICER *Major J.D. KELDIE*

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
<i>FSPB CORAL XT 9329</i>	<i>2 June</i>		<i>2Tp continued patrolling with D Coy 3RAR and 2Tp CSqn area XT 9435</i>	
<i>FSPB BALMORAL XT 9333</i>			<i>3Tp moved from IATF Base escorting a convoy to BEARCAT and remaining overnight</i>	
<i>FSPB CORAL FSPB BALMORAL</i>	<i>3 June</i>		<i>SHQ remained FSPB CORAL 1Tp cleared and requested Route 16 between FSPB CORAL and TAN UYEN 2Tp remained IATF Base 3Tp escorted a convoy from BEARCAT to FSPB CORAL and then to IATF Base.</i>	
<i>FSPB CORAL FSPB BALMORAL</i>	<i>4 June</i>		<i>Quiet night. SHQ and 1Tp remained FSPB CORAL 2Tp remained at BALMORAL 3Tp remained at IATF Base No contact during the day</i>	

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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR *June 68*

REFERENCE MAP *XT*

UNIT/FORMATION *A Sqn 2nd Regt*

COMMANDING OFFICER *Major J.D. KEADY*

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
<i>FSPB CORAL XT 9324</i>	<i>1 June</i>	<i>0315</i>	<i>102 Bty reported movement to the south of CORAL Area engaged with mortar fire and area swept with infra-red. No results</i>	
<i>FSPB BALMORAL XT 9333</i>			<i>SHQ remained at CORAL 2Tb with A Coy 3RAR and 2Tb CSqn patrolled to the north of BALMORAL vicinity XT 9336. No contact 1Tb patrolling with 1Tb CSqn and B Coy 1RAR in area XT 9631. No contact. 3Tb at IATF Base employed on route security between BARIA Y53760 and IATF Base.</i>	
<i>FSPB CORAL FSPB BALMORAL</i>	<i>2 June</i>		<i>SHQ remained CORAL 1Tb with C Coy 1RAR and 1Tb CSqn returned to the area of contact on 30 May. (XT 963291). 5 Bodies, 1 RPG2 launcher with rocket, 1 AK47 and 1 AK50 found by C Coy. RPG given to CSqn 2Tb claimed AK47 2Tb at XT 943348 captured an NVA PW</i>	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m