

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries

Royal Australian Armoured Corps

Item number: 2/4/18

**Item: A Squadron 3 Cavalry
Regiment**

Narrative

1-31 July 1968

PART 1

COVERING LETTER

Reference No. 707-41

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.

Recd
J.

(Signature)

Appointment

OC-A Sqn 3 Cav Regt

PART 2

SECRET

ORIGINAL
~~DUPPLICATE~~

Strike out where
not applicable

COMMANDERS DIARY

OF

Unit or Formation A SQN 3 CAN REGT.

From 1 Jul 68 To 31 July 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

* Only to be included during operations.

† Cross out whichever is not applicable.

AF C 2119 (Adapted)
Revised Jun, 1965

Revised Jun, 1965

Enclosure Numbers

† NIL
† RETAINED
† Despatched to

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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 NII will be entered on the cover. If additional annexes are convenient for a particular headquarters, starting at B.

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

ENTS

s as well as map references), establishment, equipment

orders given.

the day's fighting, including company movements.

mander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

ential importance.

officers, men and equipment.

ment captured.

mployed in the time not accounted for. The type of

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

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

(continued on back cover)

DISPOSAL

13. **Original Commander's Diary.** This is to be forwarded monthly, unless otherwise ordered, by 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.

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... JULY 1968

REFERENCE MAP

15

UNIT/FORMATION

REVISED JULY, 1958

A SON? CAN REST

COMMANDING OFFICER MAJ J. KELDIE

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
I ATF BASE 45 265740	31 July		The Sqn (-) remained in IATF base - carrying out essential maintenance and area improvement. 3 Tp. continued to support 1 RAR operations in AO KIMBERLY without contact. The troop remained in defence of FSPB GLADSTONE.	

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

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION A Sqn. TAN REST

MONTH AND YEAR JULY 1968

REFERENCE MAP

YS

COMMANDING OFFICER MAJ J. KELDIE

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
I ATF BASE NUI DATP	28 JUL		The squadron remained within I ATF base performing maintenance	
YS 272781	29 JUL		3Tp commenced operations in AO KIMBERLY with 1RAR no contact. SHQ troop with C Coy 3RAR conduct cordon and search NE hamlet of HOA LONG YS 4263. Results were 1 detainee and 1 A/TK mine discovered 1 + 2 Tps remained in I ATF base.	
	30 July		3Tp continued operations in AO KIMBERLY. At 1410H YS 290783 3 Sect 3Tp and 7 Pl C Coy 1RAR sighted 6 enemy and engaged them with unknown result. 3Tp continued defence of FSPB GLADSTONE YS 262710. A Sqn (-) remained in I ATF Base.	

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

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION

A/AN 3 CAV REGT

MONTH AND YEAR July 68

REFERENCE MAP

YS

COMMANDING OFFICER H. J. KELDIE

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
YS 221812	23 July		3TP cont) and A Bty 2/35 Arty (us) from IATF base to YS 251754. At 0627H on 24 Jul at YS 465781 a vehicle from 3TP detonated on M16 mine with no casualties.	
YS 235856	24 July		IHQ + 1TP remained at FSPB DYKE YS 2556.2780 2TP moved from FSPB DYKE to FSPB HAWK YS 2586 and escorted A Coy 3 RAR from FSPB HAWK to IATF base. 1245 23 SEC contacted an unk no of en with result 1 VRC KIA (BC) 1 RPG2 round and 1 compass captured. IHQ - 1 + 3TPs returned to IATF base. Normal maintenance was resumed.	
	25 July			
	26 July		All troops remained within IATF base on essential maintenance.	
	27 July		All troops remained within IATF base.	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION.....

MONTH AND YEAR

JULY 1968

REFERENCE MAP

VS + YT

COMMANDING OFFICER.....

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
1 ATF MAIN HQ	21 July		SHQ 1 + 2 Tps carried out S-N Sweep RIF outside LTL 15 from VS 190811 - VS 221812 with negative contact	
VS 212821			3 Tp continued operations in support of 1 ARMD REGT with no contact - location via VS 136782	
	22 July		SHQ remained in defence of 1 ATF Main area via VS 212821 1 Tp escorted 1 ATF Main HQ from VS 212821 to NUI DAT 2 Tp remained in support of operations in AO GUNNING with negative contact 3 Tp remained in support of 1 ARMD REGT Operations then returned to 1 ATF base with no contact.	
	23 July		SHQ, 1 + 2 Tps moved from VS 221812 to FSPB DYKE VS 2780 with C Coy 1 RAR 3 Tp supported 1 RAR supported by cordon and search activities and at approx 1600H escorted D Coy 1 RAR	

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

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR July 1968

REFERENCE MAP YS + YT

UNIT/FORMATION

t Squ? CAV

COMMANDING OFFICER

Maj J. KELDIE

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
LONG BINH / I ATF 20 Jul 68 BASE	20 Jul 68		<p>SHQ remained in defence of the I ATF Main HQ YS 211822, conducting patrol activity to the west of that location.</p> <p>1 Tp. continued operations in support of 4 RAR area AO WAGGA FSPB CHESNUT YS 2379.</p> <p>2 Tp. escorted a convoy from YS 211822 to I ATF base NUI DAT and returned, carrying C Coy 1RAR.</p> <p>3 Tp continued support of 1ST ARVN REGT operations on LTL 21 in area YS 457840. 31 Section was detached in support VIC YS 472837.</p>	
	20 Jul 68		<p>SHQ carried out further RIF in AO GUNNING VIC YS 211822.</p> <p>1 TP. carried out RIF in AO GUNNING EXTREME going difficulties were encountered along the DO SAB river flats to the WESTERN boundary of the AO.</p> <p>2 TP. carried out RIF in AO GUNNING with Q/C Coy 1RAR.</p> <p>3 TP remained in support of 1ST ARVN REGT VIC YS 463883.</p>	

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

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION A Sqn? PAU REGT

MONTH AND YEAR JULY 1968

REFERENCE MAP YS + YT.

COMMANDING OFFICER MAJ J.D. KELDIE

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
LONG BINH / IATF 17 JULY BASE	17 July		<p>SHQ remained IATF FWD LONG BINH</p> <p>1Tp escorted convoy to PHU MY YS 2574 and picked up convoy escorted from IATF base by 3Tp. This convoy was escorted to LONG BINH</p> <p>2Tp remained in support of 3RAR at FSPB KIAMA YT0914</p> <p>3Tp escorted convoy from IATF base to PHU MY YS 2574 where this convoy was exchanged with 1Tp for a convoy ex LONG BINH. 3Tp then returned to IATF base</p>	
	18 July		<p>SHQ, 1TP and 2TP provided protection for the extraction of TF elements from AO BIRDSVILLE. The Sqn(-) then escorted the TF group down LTL 15. FSPB ARCHER YS 2081 and FSPB CHEMUT YS 2379 were secured for the flying of TF elements. SHQ secured the IATF(Main) area vic YS 211821. SHQ came under mortar fire vic YS 200840 during this operation - no casualties</p> <p>3Tp commenced operations with 1ST ARMD VIC YS A35826.</p>	

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

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION A Sqn? CAV REGT

MONTH AND YEAR JULY 1968

REFERENCE MAP YS + YT

COMMANDING OFFICER MAJ J. KELDIE

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
LONG BINH	15 July		<p>SHQ remained at IATF (Fwd) LONG BINH 1TP remained in support of 4RAR at FSPB CONCORD YT 033175 2TP remained in support of 3RAR at FSPB KIAMA YT 093145 3TP supported 1RAE in AO SALMON. At 1430H at YS 545574 the troop was engaged with AK 47 and a CD mine with the result of 1 AUST KIA, 4 AUST WIA CFO D.G. REILACE A Sqn 3 Cav Regt LAD killed in action</p>	
	16 July		<p>SHQ based Long Binh 2TP remained in support at FSPB concord YT 033175 3TP Returned to IATF base at conclusion of operations in AO SALMON 1TP remained in support at FSPB KIAMA YT 093145</p>	

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

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION A FORG 2 AV REGT

MONTH AND YEAR JULY 1968

REFERENCE MAP YS + YT

COMMANDING OFFICER MAJOR J. KELDIE

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
LONG BINH YT 0611	13 July		2TP moved from 1 ATF base to FSPB KIAMA YT 093145 SHQ escorted convoy from Long Binh to 1 ATF base and returned to Long Binh. 1TP remained in FSPB CONCORD YT 033175 3TP remained in 1 ATF base —	
LONG BINH	13 July		3TP moved to HORSEHILL YS 4962 to support ops in AO SALMON 1TP remained in FSPB CONCORD YT 033175 2TP remained in FSPB KIAMA YT 093145 SHQ located LONG BINH —	
LONG BINH	14 July		SHQ remained located in LONG BINH 3TP remained in sp of 1 ATF operations Location YS 521585 2TP located FSPB KIAMA YT 093145 1TP located FSPB CONCORD YT 033175	

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

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION A Sgn CAV Regt

MONTH AND YEAR July 68

REFERENCE MAP YS & YT

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj J O KELLY

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
LONG BINH YT0611	10 July		<p>3TP returned to IATF Base SHQ units moved to FSPB KIAMA at night to assist in local defense</p> <p>3TP commenced Rec at VUNG THU</p> <p>1TP remained at CONCORD</p> <p>2TP conducted operations with Csgn 1 ARMD and returned to IATF Base</p>	
LONG BINH	11 July		<p>Sqns continued to support IATF Operations in AO BIRDSVILLE</p> <p>2TP remained IATF Base</p> <p>8TP continued Rec at VUNG THU</p>	
LONG BINH	12 July		<p>Sqn (-) continued in AO BIRDSVILLE without contact</p> <p>1TP remained at FSPB CONCORD</p> <p>2TP moved to FSPB KIAMA</p> <p>3TP completed Rec and returned to IATF Base at 1630</p>	

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

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION

A Sqn. 2 Cav Regt

MONTH AND YEAR July 68

REFERENCE MAP Y5 & YT

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj J.D. KERDIE

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
LONG BINH Y50611	7 Jul		SHQ and 1TP locations unchanged 2TP conducted recce in force in AO KATOOMBA without contact 3TP conducted Recce in force South of Route 1 in AO BIRDSVILLE.	
LONG BINH	8 Jul		Locations unchanged 2TP continued Recce in force in AO KATOOMBA without contact.	
LONG BINH	9 July		Sgn continued to support IATF Operations without contact 46 Y5 493541 a vehicle from 2TP detonated an M16 mine. No damage. Locations unchanged.	

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

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION A Sqn 3 Cav Regt

MONTH AND YEAR July 68

REFERENCE MAP Y52 YT

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj J.D. Kelder

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
LONG BINH YT0611	4 July		Sqn continued team tanks in AO BIRDSVILLE without contact. 2TP remained IATF Base	
	5 July		Operations in BIRDSVILLE continue without contact. 123TP are being given very few tasks. Majority of the operations is being conducted by infantry on foot	
	6 July		3TP conducted recce of AO with elements of 3RAR recce group in preparation for replacement of 1RAR by 3RAR. 2TP commenced operations with C Sqn 1ARMD in AO KATOOMBA centre of mass Y54656. Conducted Reconnaissance in force without contact.	

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

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION *A Sqn - 2nd Regt*

MONTH AND YEAR *July 68*

REFERENCE MAP *Y70 Y5*

COMMANDING OFFICER

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
LONG BINH YT 061	1 July		<p>Sqn continued operations in AO BIRDSVILLE without contact and with very little employment.</p> <p>Locations:</p> <p>1TP FSPB CONCORD YT 033175</p> <p>2TP IATF BASE</p> <p>3TP FSPB KIAMA YT 093145</p>	
	2 July		<p>No change in situation. Contact in III CTZ is very light.</p> <p>1TP conducted a roadrunner operation from FSPB concord to YT 001253 and returns via GL 1 and Route 314.</p>	
	3 Jul		<p>Sqn continued operations in AO BIRDSVILLE. Locations no change.</p> <p>2TP escorted convoy from IATF Base to KIAMA and returned to IATF Base.</p>	