

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

Item number: 2/4/27

**Item: A Squadron 3 Cavalry
Regiment**

Narrative, Annex

1-12 May 1969

COVERING LETTER

Reference No. 5/69

To: OIC, Military History Section, AHQ.

1. I enclose Commanders Diary (AF C2118) (Adapted) as indicated at Part 2.

2. Please return receipt below.

(Signature) [Handwritten Signature]

Appointment 21c ASm 3 Law Regt
(OC Unit or senior staff officer)

*Received
17 Jul 69*

SECRET

~~ORIGINAL~~ } Strike out where
~~DUPLICATE~~ } not applicable

COMMANDERS DIARY

OF

7ASON 3 CAV REGT

Unit or Formation

From 1 May 1969 To 12 May 1969

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
- 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 AHQ

on 10 Jun 69

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

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, they should be grouped as annexes 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 orders and to save work as much information as possible is to be included in the reports. All orders issued and received, routine returns, etc. All orders and the time of receipt or despatch is to be given.

of the 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 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.

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 May 1969

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

UNIT/FORMATION A Sqn 3 Cav Regt

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj L G O'Donnell

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
Nui DAT	1 May		A Sqn(-) remained 1 ATF Base.	
LTK 2			1 Sect 1Tp replaced 1 Sect 2Tp under Op Com 5RAR	
TL 52, LTK 23			2 Tp supported move of 4RAR from AO BAROSSA back to 1 ATF Base.	
Duc Thanh area			1 Sect 3Tp carried out convey escort from 1 ATF Base to FSPB BRUISER (YS 6464) and return.	
YS 2582, YS 2676			SpTp(-) became Op Com to B Sqn 1 Armd Regt and commenced operations in AO TAHBILIK.	
Area YS 4357			2 Sect 2Tp extracted LRRP's.	
Nui DAT			1 Sect 3Tp became Op Com to 1 Fd Sqn for Land Clearing operations.	
YS 4357			LOCATIONS:	
YS 452858			A Sqn(-) 1 ATF Base.	
			1 Sect 3Tp.	
			SpTp(-)	

[Signature]
10 A Sqn 3 CAV REGT

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 May 1969

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

UNIT/FORMATION A SQN 3RD W REGT

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj L G O'DONNELL

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
NOI DAT	2 May		A Sqn (-) remained 1 ATF Base. 1 Sect 1 Tp, 2Tp(-) and 3Tp(-) assisted SRAR withdrawal from AO COOGEE.	
Area YS 4357			1 Sect 3Tp continued to support Land Clearing operations. 3 Sect 3Tp escorted B Coy SRAR to FSPB SUSAN (452864) Sp Tp(-) remained Op Con to B Sqn 1 Armd Regt in AO TAHBIK.	
Duc Thanh area			LOCATIONS:	
NOI DAT			A Sqn(-) 1 ATF Base.	
YS 428570			1 Sect 3Tp.	
YS 452858			Sp Tp(-)	

[Signature]
A SQN 3RD W REGT


COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR May 1969

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

UNIT/FORMATION A SQDN 3rd CAV REGT

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj L.G. O'DONNELL

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
NUI DAT XUYEN MOC District	May 3		A Sqdn (-) remained 1 ATF Base. 1 Tp and Sp Tp (-) continued operations in AO SCORPION centre of mass 45 7668.	
45 719687 NUI THI VAI Area		1447H	12 Sect engaged 1 enemy with unknown results. 2 Tp moved D Coy 5 RAR to 45 353717 as a part of 5 RAR move into AO ILLAWARRA. 3 Tp escorted 5 RAR convey to FSPB SUSAN (45 2864) and assisted in rifle Coy deployments. 1 Sect 3 Tp and elements of Sp Tp remain Op Con to 1 Fd Sqdn for Land Clearing operations. LOCATIONS.	
NUI DAT 45 704673 45 428570 45 466754 FSPB SUSAN.			A Sqdn (-) 1 ATF Base. 1 Tp and Sp Tp (-) 1 Sect 3 Tp. Elements Sp Tp. 3 Sect Sp Tp 3 Sect 3 Tp and elements Sp Tp.	<p style="text-align: right;">  IO. A SQDN 3 CAV REGT </p>

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 MAY 1969

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

UNIT/FORMATION A SQN 3 CAV REGT

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj L G O'DONNELL

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
<p>NUI DAT XUYEN MOC Area. YS 748697 LONG HAI Mountains</p>	<p>May 4</p>		<p>A SQN(-) remained I ATF Base. 1 Tp and SpTp(-) continued operations in AO SCORPION. 1 Tp located an old bunker system used recently. 1 Sect 3Tp and elements of SpTp remain Op Con to 1 Fd Sqw on Land Clearing operations 2 Sect 3Tp carry out convey escorts on Ph 15. 3 Sect 3Tp and 2 Sect SpTp remained Op Con to SRAR in AO ILLAWARRA. Elements SpTp remain Op Con to B Sqw 1 Armd Regt in AO TAHBIK.</p>	
<p>Ph 15 NUI THI VAI Mountains. DUC THANH</p>			<p>Locations:</p>	
<p>NUI DAT YS 734696 YS 431571 YS 2865 YS 413729</p>			<p>A SQN(-) I ATF Base. 1 Tp, SpTp(-). 1 Sect 3Tp, elements SpTp 3 Sect 3Tp, 2 Sect SpTp. FSPB SUSAN. Elements SpTp.</p>	<p><i>[Signature]</i> 10 A SQN 3 CAV REGT</p>

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 MAY 1969

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

UNIT/FORMATION A SQN 3 CA REGT

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj L G O'DONNELL

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
NUI DAT XUYEN Moc District LONG HAI Mountains NUI THI VAI Mountains Duc Thanh area	5 May		A Sqn (-) remained IATF Base. 1 Tp and SpTp (-) continued operations in AO SCORPION. 1 Sect 3Tp and elements of SpTp remained Op Con to 1 Fd Sqn for land clearing operations. 3 Sect 3Tp and 2 Sect SpTp remained under Op Con 5RAR. Elements of SpTp remained under Op Con B Sqn 1 Armd Regt in AO TAHBIK. Convoy escort duties on Ok 15 continued.	
YS 736697		2150H	1 Tp contacted 2-4 enemy who were engaged by mortars and organic weapons with unknown results. Locations.	
NUI DAT YS 656687 YS 431571 YS 275671 YS 2865 YS 449744			A Sqn (-) IATF Base. 1 Tp and SpTp (-) 1 Sect 3Tp, elements SpTp. 3 Sect 3Tp. 2 Sect SpTp, FSPB SUSAN. Elements SpTp.	

[Signature]
10 A SQN 3 CA REGT

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 MAY 1969

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

UNIT/FORMATION A SQN 3 CAV REGT

COMMANDING OFFICER MAJ L G O'DONNELL

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
XUYEN MOC District	6 May		A Sqn(-) remained IATF Base. 1 Tp and SpTp(-) returned temporarily to IATF Base from operations in AO SCORPION. 1 Sect 3Tp and elements of SpTp remained under Op Con 1 Fd Sqn for Land Clearing operations. 3 Sect 3Tp and 2 Sect SpTp remained under Op Con 5RAR. Elements of SpTp remained under Op Con of B Sqn 1 Armd Regt in AO TAHBIKK. Convoy escort and route security on QL 15 continued. Locations.	
NUI DAT YS 431 571 YS 276 672 YS 2865 YS 460 783.			A Sqn(-) IATF Base 1 Sect 3Tp and elements SpTp. 3 Sect 3Tp 2 Sect SpTp, FSPB SUSAN. Elements SpTp.	


To A SQN 3 CAV REGT

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COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR MAY 1969

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

UNIT/FORMATION A SQN 30th REGT

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj L.G. O'DONNELL

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
XUYEN MOC District	7 May		A Sqn(-) remained IATF Base. 2 Tp and SpTp(-) returned to AO SCORPION to continue operation GARY OWEN. 1 Sect 3Tp and elements of SpTp remained under Op Con 1 Fd Sqn for Land Clearing operations. 3 Sect 3Tp and 2 Sect SpTp remained Op Con SRAR. Elements of SpTp remained under Op Con B Sqn 1 Armd Regt in AO TAHRILK. Convoy escort and route security on QL15 continued. Locations.	
4S 611673			A Sqn(-) IATF Base.	
4S 431571			2 Tp and SpTp(-).	
4S 2865			1 Sect 3Tp and elements SpTp.	
4S 522773			3 Sect 3Tp and 2 Sect SpTp, FSPB SUSAN. Elements of SpTp.	

[Signature]
TO A SQN 30th REGT

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 MAY 1969

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

UNIT/FORMATION A SQN 7 AV REGT

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj L G O'DONNELL

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
XUYEN MOC District. NUI THI VAI Mountains.	8 May		A Sqw(-) remained IATF Base. 2Tp and SpTp(-) continued operations in AO SCORPION. 3 Sect 3Tp and 2 Sect SpTp remained under Op Con SRAR in AO INAWARRA.	
DUC THANH area.			Elements of SpTp remained under op Con B Sqw 1 Armd Regt in AO TAHBIK.	
LONG HAI Mountains.			1 Sect 3Tp came under op Con of PRAR in AO ANDGATE. Convoy escort and route security on Ph 15 continue.	
4S 701672		0815H	29J struck a pressure initiated Chicom mine (15-20 lbs) resulting in minor damage to the vehicle. The vehicle remained serviceable.	
4S 682676			Locations. A Sqw(-) IATF Base. 2Tp and SpTp(-)	
4S 705648			1 Sect 2Tp and 2 dB in ambush.	
4S 2865			3 Sect 3Tp and 2 Sect SpTp FSPB SUSAN.	
4S 470794 4S 461896 4S 492552			Elements SpTp. 1 Sect 3Tp.	


COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR MAY 1969

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

UNIT/FORMATION A SQN 3 CAV REGT

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj L G O'DONNELL

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
XUYEN MOC District. NUI THI VAI Mountains DUC THANH District	May 9		A Sqn(-) remained IATF Base. 2Tp and 1 Sect SpTp continued operations in AO SCORPION. 3 Sect 3Tp remained OpCon SRAR in AO ILLAWARRA. SpTp(-) remained OpCon B Sqn 1 Armel Regt in AO TAHBIK. 1 Sect 3Tp remained OpCon 9RAR in AO ALDGATE.	
YS 428748		2145H	83 Sect was surrounded by approx 20 enemy but withdrew without incident under cover of mortar fire from 2Tp's night locations.	
YS 705648	8 May	2330H	Late entry. 1 Veh Tp HQ, 1 Sect 2Tp and 3 Pl W Coy contacted 3 enemy who failed to entry ambush killing ground, ambush was initiated with negative results. Locations: A Sqn(-), IATF Base.	
YS 715677			2Tp and 1 Sect SpTp.	
YS 2865			3 Sect 3Tp, FSPB SUSAN.	
YS 434733			Sp Tp(-)	
YS 492552			1 Sect 3Tp.	 IO A SQN 3 CAV REGT

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 May 1969

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

UNIT/FORMATION A SQN 3 CAV REGT

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj L.G. O'DONNELL

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
<u>NUI DAT</u> <u>XUYEN MAC District</u>	<u>May 10</u>		<u>A Sqn(-) remained IATF Base.</u> <u>2 Tp and 1 Sect Sp Tp continued operation GARRY OWEN in</u> <u>AO SCORPION.</u>	
<u>NUI THI VAI Mountains</u> <u>LONG HAI Mountains</u>			<u>3 Sect 3Tp remained under Op Con 5RAR in AO ILLAWARRA.</u> <u>1 Sect 3Tp remained under Op Con 9RAR in AO ALDGATE.</u> <u>Convoy escort and route security continued on QL 15.</u> <u>Locations:</u>	
<u>YS 719689</u> <u>YS 2865</u> <u>YS 444572</u>			<u>A Sqn(-) IATF Base.</u> <u>2Tp and 1 Sect Sp Tp.</u> <u>3 Sect 3Tp, FSPB SUSAN.</u> <u>1 Sect 3Tp.</u>	

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10 A Sqn 3 CAV REGT

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR MAY 1969

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

UNIT/FORMATION A SQN 3 CAV REGT

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj L.G. O'DONNELL

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
NUI DAT	May 11		A Sqn (-) remained 1 ATF Base.	
XUYEN MOC District			2Tp and 1 Sect SpTp continued operations in AO SCORPION.	
YS 731695		0855 H	2Tp fired on IVC with unknown results.	
LONG HAI Mountains			1 Sect 3Tp continued under Op Con 9RAR in AO ALDGATE.	
LONG HAI Mountains		0800 H	2 Sect 3Tp became Op Con to 9RAR for use with Land Clearing Team.	
NUI THI VAI Mountains			3 Sect 3Tp remained Op Con to 5RAR in AO ILLAWARRA.	
DUCTHANH District			SpTp (-) remained Op Con to B Sqn in AO TAHBINK.	
			Locations:	
NUI DAT			A Sqn (-) 1 ATF Base.	
YS 722695			1 Sect 2Tp.	
YS 714672			2Tp (-)	
YS 4954			1 Sect 3Tp, FSPB THRUST.	
YS 443569			2 Sect 3Tp	
YS 2865			3 Sect 3Tp, FSPB SUSAN	
YS 455761			SpTp (-)	

[Signature]
10 A SQN 3 CAV REGT

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 MAY 1969

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

UNIT/FORMATION A SQN 3rd CAV REGT

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj L.G. O'DONNELL

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
NUI DAT	May 12		A Sqn(-) IATF Base.	
			1 Tp(-) carried out convoy escort on QL 15.	
XUYEN MOC District.			2 Tp and 1 Sect Sp Tp continued operation GARY OWEN in AO SCORPION.	
YS 756688		0915H	Infantry element with 2 Tp contacted and killed 2 VC, capturing 1x M1 carbine and 1 SKS rifle.	
LONG HAI Mountains.			1 and 2 Sects 3 Tp remained Op Con to QRAR in AO ALDGATE.	
			3 Sect 3 Tp remained Op Con to SRAR in AO ILLAWARRA.	
			Sp Tp(-) remained Op Con to B Sqn 1 Armd Regt in AO	
DUC THANH District			TAHBILK.	
			Locations.	
NUI DAT.			A Sqn(-) IATF Base.	
YS 775679.			2 Tp(-)	
YS 722695.			2 Sect 2 Tp.	
YS 448574			2 Sect 3 Tp.	
YS 2865.			3 Sect 3 Tp, FSPB SUSAN	
YS 411731			Sp Tp(-)	

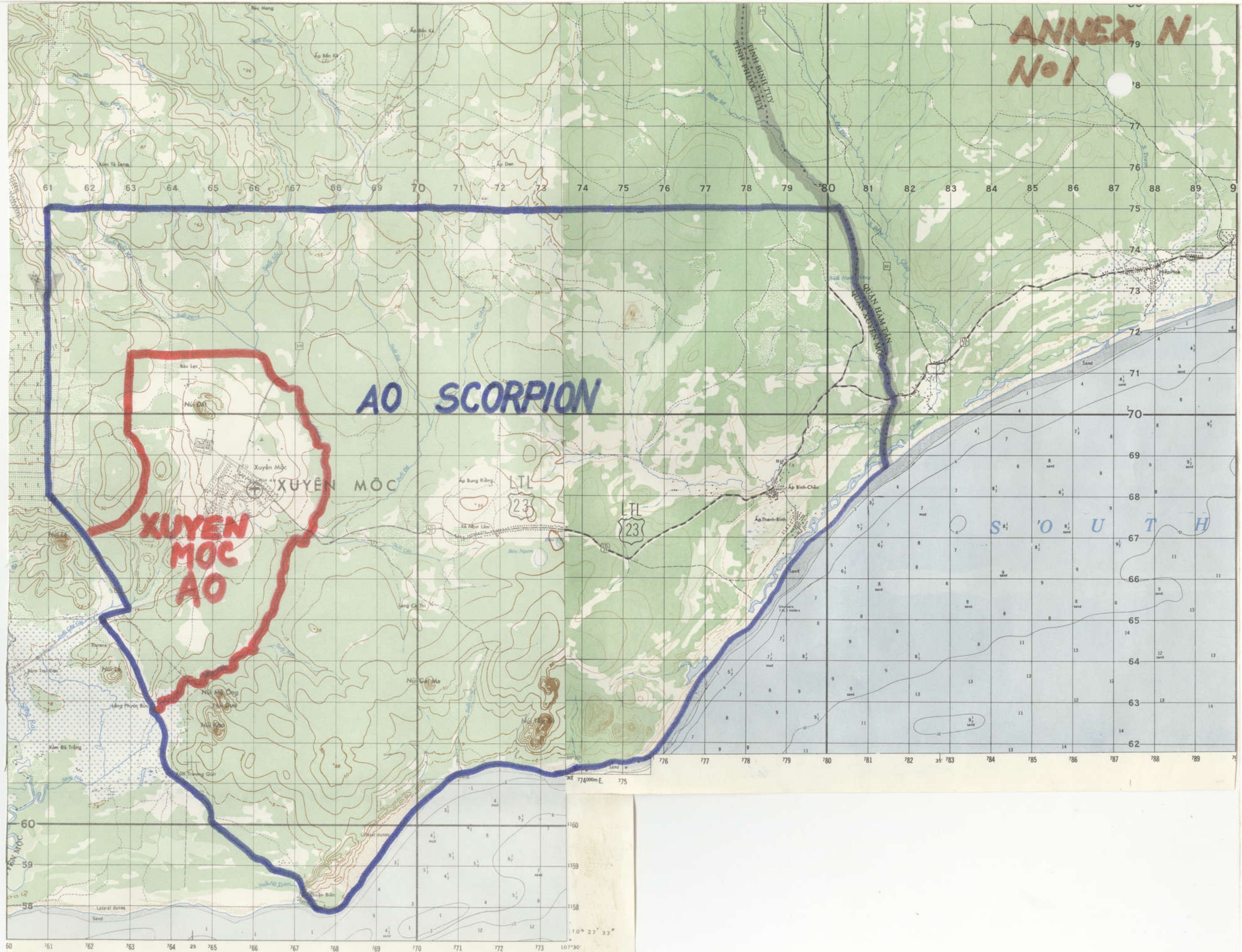
[Signature]
10 A SQN 3rd CAV REGT

ANNEX N
No 1

AO SCORPION

XUYEN MOC AO

S O U T H



SPECIAL USE S.E. ASIA 1:100,000
MAP INFORMATION AS OF 1965 AND 1966.

SHEET 6430
SERIES L607