

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

Item number: 2/5/10

**Item: B Squadron 3 Cavalry
Regiment**

Narrative

1-31 January 1970

PART 1

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)

PART 2

AF C 2119 (Adapted)
Revised Jun. 1965

SECRET

ORIGINAL

~~DUPLICATE~~

Strike out where

not applicable

COMMANDERS DIARY

OF

Unit or Formation B SON 3 CAV REGT.

From 1 JAN 1970 To 31 JAN 1970

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

[illegible]

† NIL
† RETAINED
† Despatched to

оп.....

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

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, starting at B.

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

TENTS

es as well as map references), establishment, equipment

d orders given.

he day's fighting, including company movements.

mmander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

potential importance.

to officers, men and equipment.

ipment captured.

employed 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.

he 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, 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.

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adopted)
Revised Jun 1966

B SQN 3 CAV REGT
MAJOR R. E. ROOKS, OC

MONTH AND YEAR JAN 70

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	1 JAN		Section 1Tp inserted a 15 man patrol from 8RAR into area of GR 395639.	
			86 Section at LCT uncovered a bunker system at GR 522578.	
			LOCATIONS.	
599764			20A, 29J, 23, 82	
594768			20B, 29N, 98B, 21,	
FSPB PAT			22.	
FSPB PEGGY			32.	
464812			33,	
538598			86, 85B.	
500605			85A.	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118(Ad. Sec.)
Revised Jun 1966

B SQN 3 CAV REGT
MAJOR R. E. ROOKS, OC

MONTH AND YEAR JAN 70

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	2 JAN		86 Sect reported another bunker system uncovered with LCT. Among items recovered were 4 claymores, 2 Bangalore torpedoes, 28 M79 rounds, quantity of food.	
			LOCATIONS	
538598			86, 85B.	
PSPB PEGGY			32.	
434870			33	
601762			20A, 29J, 21, 82	
594748			20B, 29N, 98B, 23	
FSPB PAT			22	
500605			85A.	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Ad. ced)
Revised Jun 1966

B SQN 3 CAV REGT

MAJOR R. E. ROOKS, OC

MONTH AND YEAR JAN 70

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY.

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AF - C 2118(Ad. ced)
Revised Jun 1966

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

B SQN 3 CAV REGT

MAJOR R. E. ROOKS, OC

MONTH AND YEAR JAN 70

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	4 JAN		32 sect apprehended a Chien Hoi at G.R. 396868. The V.C. was wounded.	
			86 sect moved to G.R. 526583 with a Platoon of infantry to support 3 tanks which had had 12 RPG's fired at them. There were negative results to either side.	
			LOCATIONS	
500605			85A.	
FSPB PAT			2, 98B.	
538598			85B, 86.	
384865			32	
431874			33	

AF - C 2118(Adapted)
Revised Jun 1966

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR JAN 70.

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

B SQN 3 CAV REGT
MAJOR R. E. ROOKS, OC

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	5 JAN		1 Tp replaced 2 Tp in AO. ROSSLYN. opcon 5RAR. 2 Tp commenced a 4 day independant operation with RF troops in the area S-E of XUYEN MOC. 84 Sect conducted an artillery raid to the LONG HAI S. A number of civilians who were in the free fire zone were detained by 84 Sect.	
			LOCATIONS.	
500605			85A	
538598			86, 85B.	
620825			11	
613852			12	
FSPB PAT			1, 81, 98B.	
658683			2, 82, 98A, 9F.	
454889			32, 33.	



COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118(Add. ed)
Revised Jun 1966

B SQN 3 CAV REGT
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MONTH AND YEAR JAN 1970

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY.

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	6 JAN		Sect 3 Tp cleared the entrance route to the U.S. FSPB RHODE ISLAND.	
			A late contact report from 1 Tp indicated that IVC had been contacted at G.R. 613802 with negative results.	
			84 Sect carried a resupply to the LCT then lifted an infantry platoon from LCT to HORSE SHOE FEATURE.	
			LOCATIONS.	
500605			85A opcon 1 FD SQN.	
538598			86, 85B. opcon 17 CONST SQN.	
451899			32, 33. opcon 8RAR and A/1ARMD	
609813			195, 13 opcon 5RAR	
FSPB PAT			11, 98B opcon 5RAR	
615792			10B, 12, 10A opcon 5RAR	
781652			20B, 21, 22, 29M. independant op	
774644.			2, 29J, 98, 9F, 23, 82, independant op.	



COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - G 2118(ASA, ed)
Revised Jun 1966

B SQN 3 CAV REGT

MAJOR R. E. ROCKS, OC

MONTH AND YEAR JAN 70.

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY.

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COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - G 2118(Add. ed)
Revised Jun 1966

B SQN 3 CAV REGT
MAJOR R. E. ROOKS, OC

MONTH AND YEAR JAN 1970

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY.

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	8 JAN		32 Sect was replaced by 31 Sect in AO ASHGROVE for mechanical reasons. At 2015 hrs 31 Sect was scrambled to G.R. 432824 where an infantry platoon was in heavy contact which lasted for several hours. The driver of 22B was hit on the head when his APC ran into a tree. He was dusted off from G.R. 637624. At G.R. 636627, an RF soldier working with 2Tp stood on an anti-tank mine resulting in 1 RF KIA, 2 RF WIA.	
			LOCATIONS	
634 888			10B, 11, 81	
FSPB PAT			10A, 19J, 98B, 12, 13.	
538 598			86, 85B.	
FSPB PEGGY			31.	
644 608			20B, 9F, 21, 23.	
635 622			2, 29J, 29M, 98, 22, 82.	

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COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)
Revised Jun 1966

B SQN 3 CAV REGT
MAJOR R. E. ROOKS, OC

MONTH AND YEAR JAN 1970

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY.

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	9 JAN		3Tp was reacted to the 8RAR contact at GR 432824 with A Coy 8RAR on board at first light. The outcome was that a lot of blood trails were found in the area but no bodies or equipment. 3Tp later reported back to NUI DAT and brought A Coy in with them. 84A which was also involved in the 3Tp task was recovered to NUI DAT by LAD vehicle with mechanical problems.	
			LOCATIONS	
500605			85A.	
645910			10B, 11, 81.	
FSPB PAT			10A, 19J, 98B, 12, 13.	
			2Tp returned to NUI DAT shortly after last light.	



COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

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MAJOR R. E. ROOKS, OC

MONTH AND YEAR, JAN 1970

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY.

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COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118(Adapted)
Revised Jun 1966

B SQN 3 CAV REGT
MAJOR R. E. ROOKS, OC

MONTH AND YEAR JAN 1969

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	11 JAN		1 Troop detained one Chien Hai at GR 643905. 1 x AK47, 3 MAGAZINES, 1 WATCH, 1 TRANSISTOR were also recovered.	
			LOCATIONS.	
FSPB TIGER			10A, 10B, 11, 81.	
FSPB PAT			19J, 98B, 12, 13, 19M.	
465 793.			2 Tp.	
538 598			86, 85B.	
498 617			85A.	

[Signature]

Revised Jun 1966

MAJOR R. E. BOONING, OC

MAP PHUOC TUY

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY



MAJOR R. E. BOOKS, CO

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

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AF - C 2118(Adapted)
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MAJOR R. E. ROOFS, CG

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR JAN 1970

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY.

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MAJOR R. E. ROY, OC

MONTH AND YEAR JAN 1970

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

9

MAJOR R. E. BROWN, OC

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY + BINH TUY

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY + BINH TUY



MAJOR R. E. RO 3, 00

MONTH AND YEAR JAN 1989

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY & BINH TUY.



MAJOR R. E. ROY, OC

MONTH AND YEAR JAN 1970.

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY & BINH TUY.



AF - C 2118(Adapted)

Revised Jun 1966

B SQN 3 CAV REGT

MAJOR R. E. BO, OC

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR JAN 1970

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY & BINH TUY.

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or Information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	19 JAN		22 Sect replaced 23 Sect in AO BAYSWATER. Sect 2Tp escorted the DUSTERS from HUSKY CHARLIE to the LONG HAIS for a shoot. at GR. 651913 an AP from 1Tp contacted 4 V.C. with negative results.	
			LOCATIONS.	
FSPB PEGGY			22.	
538598			85, 12.	
FSPB TIGER.			10A, 10B, 81, 11.	
FSPB PAT			193, 19M, 13, 98B.	
498617			85A.	
926932			I 21.	
942913			82, 83, 31.	

MAJOR R. E. FENNER, JR. 3, 00

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY & BINH TUY

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)
Revised Jun 1966

B SQN 3 CAV REGT

MAJOR R. E. BOYD, OC

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR JAN 1970

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY & BINH TUY

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or Information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	21 JAN		21 Sect and a fitter's vehicle commenced a convoy escort with the resupply for MATILDA FORCE. The route taken was Rt 15 to LONG BINH, Rt 1 to XUAN LOC to RV at GR. 8196.	
			at 1400hrs at GR. 897051, MATILDA FORCE contacted 3VC resulting in 1 VC KIA, 1 SKS CIA and some personal gear & documents recovered.	
			LOCATIONS.	
XUAN LOC			21, 98.	
FSPB PAT			11, 81.	
FSPB PEGGY			22.	
538598			12, 85.	
498 617			85A.	
861 996			MATILDA FORCE MAIN BODY.	
702793			1(-).	
884003			30B, 33.	
880020			39J, 32.	
883030			39M, 84.	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR JAN 1970

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY & BINH TUY.

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or Information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	22 JAN		at 0923 hrs at GR. 719 814 cp 13B struck a 30-40 lbs mine. The vehicle was under tow at the time and thus the crew was uninjured. However the vehicle was extensively damaged.	
			at 1330 hrs 84 sect at GR. 840 988 discovered an anti personal beoby trap. It was destroyed by 84 in situ.	
			21 sect RV'd with MATILDA FORCE at GR 8196 & effected resupply after which he returned to XUAN LOC.	
			LOCATIONS.	
FSPB LYNX			10A, 19J, 19M.	
689 766			10B, 13, 98B.	
FSPB PAT			11, 81.	
498 617			85A.	
FSPB PEGGY			22.	
808 968			MATILDA FORCE MAIN BODY	
913 040			30B, 33	

MAJOR R. E. BOO, OC

MONTH AND YEAR JAN 1970

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY & BINH TUY.

RCDIG1029230

MAJOR R. E. ROSS, OC

PHUOC TUY



B SQN 3 CAV REGT
MAJOR R. E. BOON, OO

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY



COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR Jan 70

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or Information	Annex letter and enclosure number
Base	25 Jan	1246	21 Sect task to move David E Pl out on reaction.	
Base		1247	DUSTOFF placed on standby for 22 Sect.	
465862		1245	22 rep in contact; req PRIORITY DUSTOFF for soldier with shrapnel wounds to the head. Stated a pl from W Coy 6RAR had entered some bamboo near CAM MY and sighted 10 to 11 VC carrying packs. No of pers injured unknown at this stage.	
832744		1330	11 rep an instl at this loc. The instl comprised a hut surrounded by a thin line of pangi stakes. There was some gear stowed under the hut. The pangi pits were desth and the hut burnt.	
		1327	22A rep DUSTOFF complete.	
		1401	22A rep that the replacement had arrived.	
			<u>LOCATIONS</u>	
FSPB PEGGY			22.	
817706			10A plus 1 TP, 84, 86, 82, 85.	
784656			30A, 30J, 98A, T1.	
789667			Mainbody of MATILDA force.	
FSPB PAT			11, 81.	
Locs cont on next page.				

MAJOR R. M. ROCKS, CG

MONTH AND YEAR Jan 70

NEUTRON ON MAP PHUOC TUY

RCDIG1029230

MAJOR R. E. BOORS, CG

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY



AF - C 2118(Adapted)
Revised Jun 1966

B SQN 3 CAV REGT
MAJOR R. E. BOOKS, OC

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR Jan 70

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or Information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	27 Jan			
Base		1044	Telecon GSO2 (Ops) - Sqn CP. Cancel the req for a Tp to carry B Coy 6 RAR to grid square 4872. Warning - possible move of B Coy 6 RAR EAST of Route 2 and SOUTH of DUC THANH at 1330 hrs. Sqn ZIC notified.	
Base		1220	30B warned for briefing by B Coy 6 RAR.	
Base		1615	39J rep task complete - all call signs back in base.	
			<u>LOCATIONS</u>	
FSPB PEGGY			22	
498617			85A.	
FSPB DAKOTA			21 and 85A.	
590685			11, 81 and I83.	
Base		1847	Rec a rep that I42 had completed a contact resulting in: 2 x VC KIA. 1 x SKS CIA.	
Base		2130	Practice TF Base STAND TO. All pers from this Sqn accounted for.	
566672		1254	11 rep he was assisting I43 and I44 in contact.	
566672		1333	11 rep contact broken. During contact the friendly rec RPG and SAF. Also rep a sweep about to commence.	

B SQN 3 CAV REGT
MAJOR R. E. BOOKS, OG

PREFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

PREFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY



AT - C 2118(Adapted)
 Revised Jun 1966
 B SQN 3 CAV REGT
 MAJOR R. E. BOOKS, CO

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR Jan 70

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or Information	Annex letter and enclosure number
424724	29 Jan	0715	At 0817 the TF CP informed PC that 95Z from 5 RAR had a contact at the grid and time mentioned in the first two columns. Result: one en KIA, one SKS, qty of food and a qty of explosives CIA.	
611781		0915	1PB rep to PC at 1012 hrs that a two-man bunker (poss listening post) had been loc; est to be approx six mths old. Inf were dismounted to search the area but failed to produce anything further.	
Unspecified in Log		1630	2PB rep evidence of an old bunker system exhibiting signs of animal activity. Suggested animal activity could account for SNIFFER readings gained from that loc.	
474668		1730	2PB req permission to dest a 105mm blind. Permission granted by arty fac.	
474668		1745	2PB rep dest of blind complete.	
			<u>LOCATIONS</u>	
590685			11, 81.	
614801			1PB, 13.	
FSPB PAT			1PA, 19J, 19M, 98B,	
FSPB DAKOTA			84, 85, 9G.	
			(Locs cont on next page).	

Revised Jun 1966

B SQN 3 CAV REGT

MAJOR R. E. ROOKS-00

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR Jan 70

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY



COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - G 2118 (Adapted)
Revised Jun 1966

B SQN 3 CAV REGT

MAJOR R. E. ROOKS, OC

MONTH AND YEAR Jan 70

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
SOUTH of BINH BA	30 Jan	1010	20B rep in the vic of BINH BA SOUTH and halted. Tuf dismounted and commencing a sweep of DUC MY area.	
" " "		1040	20B rep: Tp HQ on Route 2.	
			21 ack inf with sweep of DUC MY.	
			23 mov further NORTH to BINH BA.	
Not specified		1432	20A rep loc blood trails.	
SOUTH of BINH BA		1630	20B rep rejoining 21 and 23 on Route 2, preparatory to returning to base.	
			<u>LOCATIONS</u>	
FSPB PEGGY			22.	
FSPB DAKOTA			84, 85, 9G.	
FSPB COLORADO			85D.	
498617			85A.	
FSPB PAT			10A, 10B, 19J, 19M, 12, 13, 98A.	
581733			11, 81, I83.	
628654			32, T4.	

(Occurrences cont on next page).

MAJOR R. E. BOO, OC

MONTH AND YEAR Jan 70

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY



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Revised Jun 1966

B SQN 3 CAV REGT

MAJOR R. E. ROOPE, OC

MONTH AND YEAR

REFERENCE MAP

PHUOC TUY

