

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Army Aviation units

Item number: 8/1/16

Item: 161 [Independent]

Reconnaissance Flight

Narrative

[1-31 Jan 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.

(Signature) *C. J. Hinton*

Appointment **OC 161 (Indep) Recce Flt**
(OC Unit or senior staff officer)

*Receipt paid
12-4-67
R7.*

SECRET

ORIGINAL
~~DUPLICATE~~

Strike out where
not applicable

COMMANDERS DIARY

OF

Unit or Formation **161 (Independent) Reconnaissance Flight**

From **1 Jan 67**

To **31 Jan 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

- to
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† NIL
† RETAINED
† Despatched to

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

on.....

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

CONTENTS

as well as map references), establishment, equipment

and orders given.

the day's fighting, including company movements.

Commander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

potential importance.

officers, men and equipment.

moment captured.

employed in the time not accounted for. The type of

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

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

(continued on back cover)

COMMA DISPOSAL DIARIES

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:

- Cover (AF C 2119) (Adapted).
- Index as printed on cover.
- Narrative (AF C 2118) (Adapted).
- 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, listing at B.

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COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION 161 (INDEP) RECCE FLT

MONTH AND YEAR JANUARY 1967

REFERENCE MAP PHOUIC TUY PROVINCE

COMMANDING OFFICER MAJ L G DOYLE RAA

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
VUNG TAU	1 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "DUCK" and HQ 1 ATF	
	2 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "DUCK" and HQ 1 ATF	
			214268 Pte J RUTTLEY detached to NUI DAT	
	3 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "DUCK" and HQ 1 ATF	
			The Flight's location at VUNG TAU Airfield was inspected by Brig S C GRAHAM MC, the relieving Task Force Commander	
	4 Jan		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "DUCK" and HQ 1 ATF	
			3787052 Pte B J WALL returned from NUI DAT	
	5 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "DUCK" concluded today. 1200008 2Lt C J BARRON was accidentally fired on by 5 RAR	
	6 Jan		FW and RW operations in support of HQ 1 ATF	
	7 Jan		FW and RW operations in support of HQ 1 ATF. 37934 Cfn G J LEWIS returned from NUI DAT.	
	8 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of HQ 1 ATF. 13897 WO2 T P PHILLIPS returned from NUI DAT. 1730826 Pte R J GAZE and 1731018 Pte W R MULLER were detached to NUI DAT.	
	9 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of HQ 1 ATF	
	10 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of HQ 1 ATF	
	11 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "CALOUNDRA" and HQ 1 ATF	
	12 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "WOLLONGONG" and HQ 1 ATF	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION 161 (INDEP) RECCE FLT

MONTH AND YEAR JANUARY 1967

REFERENCE MAP PHOUIC TUY PROVINCE

COMMANDING OFFICER MAJ L G DOYLE RAA

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
VUNG TAU	12 Jan		243291 Cfn F S MITCHELL marched into the unit from AUSTRALIA	
	13 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "WOLLONGONG" and HQ 1 ATF	
	14 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "WOLLONGONG" and HQ 1 ATF	
			1730826 Pte R J GAZE and 214268 Pte J RUTTLEY returned to unit from NUI DAT.	
	15 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "WOLLONGONG" and HQ 1 ATF	
	16 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "WOLLONGONG", Operation "CAMDEN" and HQ 1 ATF. 13897 WO2 T P PHILLIPS, 1410846 Sgt J R E ALLMAN, 36953 Cpl A E M PHILLIPS, and 18443 Lcpl G R KRAUSE were detached to NUI DAT.	
	17 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "WOLLONGONG" and HQ 1 ATF	
	18 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "WOLLONGONG", Operation "CAMDEN" and HQ 1 ATF.	
	19 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "WOLLONGONG" and HQ 1 ATF. 1410846 Sgt J R E ALLMAN returned from NUI DAT.	
	20 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "WOLLONGONG" and HQ 1 ATF. 3787247 Tpr Q L SELL returned from NUI DAT.	
			The Flight's location at VUNG TAU Airfield was visited by Gp Capt NICHOLS, DLS for the RAAF	
	21 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "WOLLONGONG" and HQ 1 ATF	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION 161 (INDEP) RECCE FLT

MONTH AND YEAR JANUARY 1967

REFERENCE MAP PHOUIC TUY PROVINCE

COMMANDING OFFICER MAJ L G DOYLE

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
VUNG TAU	22 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "WOLLONGONG" and HQ 1 ATF 216079 Pte R F MARTIN returned from NUI DAT	
	23 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "WOLLONGONG" and HQ 1 ATF 1731018 Pte W R MULLER returned from NUI DAT. 3787968 Pte J F RANKIN was detached to NUI DAT.	
	24 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "WOLLONGONG" and HQ 1 ATF 215026 Pte L C MCCARTHY was detached to 2 Comp Ord Depot.	
	25 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "WOLLONGONG" and HQ 1 ATF.	
	26 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "WOLLONGONG" and HQ 1 ATF.	
	27 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "WOLLONGONG" and HQ 1 ATF. 213017 21t R W ASKEW received small arms fire but the aircraft sustained no damage.	
	28 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "WOLLONGONG" and HQ 1 ATF.	
	29 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "WOLLONGONG" and HQ 1 ATF. 13897 WO2 T P PHILLIPS returned from NUI DAT.	
	30 Jan		FW and RW Operations in support of Operation "WOLLONGONG" and HQ 1 ATF. 19993 21t V T SALMON returned from detachment with 54th Avn Coy while 37498 Capt J T WRIGHT commenced his detachment with 54th Avn Coy. 310286 WO2 H NICHOL and 3787052 Pte B J WALL were detached to NUI DAT.	

1 B P Coy-275/65-55m

