

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Engineer units

Item number: 4/2/75

Item: 1 Field Squadron

Narrative

Operations Log

[1-30 Sep 1971]

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).....Capt.

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

SECRET

ORIGINAL }
DUPLICATE } Strike out where
 } not applicable

COMMANDERS DIARY

OF

Unit or Formation.....1 FD SQN GP

From.....1 Sep 71 To.....30 Sep 71

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.

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

ITEMS

as well as map references), establishment, equipment

l orders given.

the day's fighting, including company movements.

commander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

ential importance.

officers, men and equipment.

ment 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.

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.

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT 100 SQN

MONTH AND YEAR Sep 71

OFFICER COMMANDING MAJ R.P. KUDNIG

DATE	EVENT OR INFORMATION	ANNEX LETTER AND ENCLOSURE No
1 Sep	A TD15 was moved to COURTENAY HILL to dig a new rubbish pit for 4 RAR. The wksps FRT checked the M 48 mine clearing tank at COURTENAY HILL.	
2 Sep	The M48 mine clearing tank returned to NUI DAT, unserviceable. The trg group deployed to AO PADDINGTON for tunnel demolition trg.	
3 Sep	Land clearing continues around the NUI DAT base perimeter. A Case backhoe was deployed to FSB ROBIN but returned same day due to mechanical troubles.	
4 Sep	The backhoe returned to FSB ROBIN to complete ats task.	
5 Sep	No significant operational activity.	
6 Sep	A TD15 dozer moved to COURTENAY HILL for further tasks.	
7 Sep	Scammel low loader to VUNG TAU for movement of tanks from 1 ALSG to VUNG TAU WHARF.	
8 Sep	A TD15 dozer carried out bunding construction at FSB HORSESHOE for ARVN 155 mm Howitzers.	
9 Sep	No significant operational activity.	
10 Sep	No significant operational activity.	
11 Sep	Land clearance of 1 ATF Base perimeter continues.	
12 Sep	No significant operational activity.	
13 Sep	Land clearance of 1 ATF Base perimeter completed. Clearance of 4 RAR area commenced.	
14 Sep	No significant operational activity.	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT D SQN

MONTH AND YEAR SEP 71

OFFICER COMMANDING MAJ R.P. KUDNIG

DATE	EVENT OR INFORMATION	ANNEX LETTER AND ENCLOSURE No
15 Sep	FSBs CENTENARY and MARY demolished.	
16 Sep	Land clearance in 4 RAR area commenced. This is the area the Bn Gp will occupy on the withdrawal of 1 ATF major units.	
17 Sep	No significant operational activity.	
18 Sep	D4 dozer and backhoe moved to FSB SHIRLEY.	
19 Sep	Bund construction at FSB HORSESHOE continues. The backhoe at FSB SHIRLEY was moved to FSB MAREE.	
20 Sep	No significant operational activity.	
21 Sep	No significant operational activity.	
22 Sep	A TD15 dozer was moved to COURTENAY HILL to dig a new rubbish pit.	
23 Sep	No significant operational activity.	
24 Sep	TD15 dozer returned to NUI DAT from COURTENAY HILL.	
25 Sep	Two mine incidents occurred, both involving APCs and both in the COURTENAY RUBBER area. The first occurred at YS 490895 and the second at YS 486895. One APC was moving to assist the other when the second occurred. Both mines were 60 lbs in size with a pressure/elec initiator. Both vehicles were heavily damaged and 4 members WIA. On this particular track 15 mine incidents have occurred during the period 1970/71 and even after advice elements continue to use it.	
26 Sep	No significant operational activity.	
27 Sep	Land clearing at the base of NUI DAT HILL commenced. Clearance for 104 Bty to occupy a new position.	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT 100 SON

MONTH AND YEAR SEP 71

OFFICER COMMANDING MAJ R.P. KUDNIG

DATE	EVENT OR INFORMATION	ANNEX LETTER AND ENCLOSURE No
28 Sep	Land clearing of the perimeter of LUSCOMBE airfield commenced for local defence purposes.	
29 Sep	No significant operational activity.	
30 Sep	No significant operational activity.	

OPERATIONS LOG

Date 1 Sep 71

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

Page 1

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
			<p>PRE-PLANNED TASKS</p> <p>TD15 to COURTENAY to dig rubbish tip, 4 RAR. RAEME team to COURTENAY to inspect 92T.</p>	
011551	79A	0A	<p>Land Clearing Report - NUI DAT.</p> <p>A. 80,000 sq m.</p> <p>B. Nil.</p> <p>C. 4 machines all day.</p> <p>D. Nil.</p>	Ack.

OPERATIONS LOG

Date.2.Sep.71....

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

Page.1...

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	TAKEN EVENT TAKEN	ACTION
021518	92S	0A	<p>PRE-PLANNED TASKS</p> <p>92T returned to NUI DAT. Training Group tunnel demolition in AO PADDINGTON.</p> <p>Land Clearing Report - NUI DAT</p> <p>A. 45,000 sq m.</p> <p>B. Nil.</p> <p>C. 1 machine all day; 2 machines 1/2 day.</p> <p>D. Nil.</p>	Ack.

OPERATIONS LOG

Date. 3. Sep. 71....

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

Page 1.....

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS Land clearing continues. Case backhoe deployed to FSB ROBIN but returned same day due to mechanical trouble.	
031540	92S	0A	Land Clearing Report - NUI DAT A. 50,000 sq m. B. Nil. C. 2 machines all day. D. Nil.	Ack.

Date 4 Sep 71.....

OPERATIONS LOG

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

Page 1.....

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS Backhoe to FSB ROBIN.	
040945	0A		All Stations Change to alternate frequency. this net.	Ack.
041530	79A	0A	Land Clearing Report - NUI DAT A. 40,000 sq m. B. Nil. C. 2 machines all day. D. Nil.	Ack.

OPERATIONS LOG

Date 5 Sep 71....

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

Page 1....

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	TAKEN	EVENT	TAKEN	ACTION
				PRE-PLANNED TASKS Nil.		
051245	79A	0A		Land Clearing Report - NUI DAT A. 60,000 sq m. B. Nil. C. 2 machines 1/2 day. D. Nil.		Ack.

OPERATIONS LOG

Date 6. Sep 71....

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

Page 1.....

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	TAKEN EVENT	ACTION
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS TD15 to Courtenay 4 RAR rubbish pit area.	
061535	79A	0A	Land Clearing Report - NUI DAT A. 180,000 sq m. B. Nil. C. 5 machines all day. D. Nil.	Ack.

Date.7.Sep.71....

OPERATIONS LOG

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

Page¹.....

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS Scammel low loader to VUNG TAU moving tanks from 1 ALSG to VUNG TAU wharf.	
071542	79A	0A	Land Clearing Report - NUI DAT A. 100,000 sq m. B. Nil. C. 5 machines all day. D. Nil.	Ack.

OPERATIONS LOG

Date...8.Sep.71..

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

Page 1.....

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	TAKEN EVENT	TAKEN ACTION
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS TD15 dozer to FSB HORSESHOE to bund ARVN 155 mm Howitzers.	
081550	79A	0A	Land Clearing Report - NUI DAT A. 220,000 sq m. B. Nil. C. 5 machines all day. D. Nil.	Ack.

OPERATIONS LOG

Date. 9. Sep. 71....

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

Page. 1...

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	TAKEN EVENT TAKEN	ACTION
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS Nil.	
091600	79A	0A	Land Clearing Report - NUI DAT A. 90,000 sq m. B. Nil. C. 3 machines 1/2 day. D. Nil.	Ack.

OPERATIONS LOG

Date 10. Sep. 71...

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

Page.1...

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	TAKEN	EVENT	TAKEN	ACTION
				PRE-PLANNED TASKS Nil.		
101426	79A	0A		Land Clearing Report - NUI DAT A. 180,000 sq m. B. Nil. C. 4 machines all day. D. Nil.		Ack.
101900	92G	0A		We are at Pearly Gates on operation HOA LONG STOMP. We have permission from SUNRAY.		
101919	92G	0A		HOA LONG STOMP finishes due to enemy activity; back in your location in 3 minutes.		Ack.

OPERATIONS LOG

Date 11. Sep. 71...

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

Page...1..

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	TAKEN EVENT	TAKEN ACTION
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS Nil.	
111530/	79B	OA	Land Clearing Report - NUI DAT A. 30,000 sq m. B. Nil. C. 4 machines all day. D. Nil.	Ack.

Date...12 Sep 71

OPERATIONS LOG

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

Page...1....

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	TAKEN EVENT	TAKEN ACTION
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS Nil.	
121535	79A	ØA	Land Clearing Report - NUIDAT A. 26Ø,ØØØ Sq m. B. Nil. C. 4 machines all day. D. Nil.	Ack.

Date.13.Sep.71...

OPERATIONS LOG

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

Page.1.....

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS Land Clearing of NUI DAT perimeter completed.	
131602	79B	0A	Land Clearing Report - NUI DAT A. 200,000 sq m. B. Nil. C. 3 machines all day; 1 machine 1/2 day. D. Nil.	Ack.

Date 14 Sep 71

OPERATIONS LOG

Page 1.....

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION TAKEN
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS Nil.	
			No transmissions of reporting interest.	

Date, 15 Sep 71

OPERATIONS LOG

Page 1.....

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION TAKEN
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS Clearance of FSBs CENTENARY and MARY. No transmissions of reporting interest.	

Date 16 Sep 71

OPERATIONS LOG

Page 1.....

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION TAKEN
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS Land clearing at 4 RAR commenced.	
			No transmissions of reporting interest.	

Date, 17. Sep. 71

OPERATIONS LOG

Page 1.....

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION TAKEN
			<p>PRE-PLANNED TASKS Land clearing at 4 RAR continues.</p> <p>No transmissions of reporting interest.</p>	

Date .18. Sep. 71

OPERATIONS LOG

Page...1.....

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION TAKEN
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS D4 and backhoe moved to FSB SHIRLEY.	
			No transmissions of reporting interest.	

Date, 19 SEP 71

OPERATIONS LOG

Page 1

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION TAKEN
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS	
			Construct bunds at HORSESHOE. Backhoe moved from FSB SHIRLEY to FSB MAREE.	
			No transmissions of reporting interest.	

Date..20.Sep.71

OPERATIONS LOG

Page..1.....

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION TAKEN
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS Nil.	
			No transmissions of reporting interest.	

Date...21.Sep.71

OPERATIONS LOG

Page...1.....

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION TAKEN
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS Nil.	
211555	79A	ØA	Land Clearing Report - NUI DAT A. 50,000 sq m. B. Nil. C. 2 machines all day. D. Nil.	Ack.

Date 22 Sep 71

OPERATIONS LOG

ge...1.....

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION TAKEN
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS TD 15 moved to COURTENAY HILL to dig new rubbish pit.	
221517	79A	ØA	Land Clearing Report - NUI DAT A. 300,000 sq m. B. Nil. C. 2 machines all day. D. Nil. Task completed.	Ack.

Date 23 Sep 71

OPERATIONS LOG

Page 1

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION TAKEN
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS Nil.	
			No transmissions of reporting interest.	

Date 24. Sep. 71.

OPERATIONS LOG

Page 1.....

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION TAKEN
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS TD 15 returned from COURTENAY HILL. No transmissions of reporting interest.	

Date 25 Sep 71

OPERATIONS LOG

3e.1.....

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION TAKEN
ENTRY			PRE-PLANNED TASKS Nil.	
			<u>Mine Incidents</u> A. TA 2 B. 25 1220 C. YS 486895 and YS 490895. D. Detonated. E. Chicom block explosive. F. VC local. G. 60 lbs in each case. H. Pressure/elec in each case. I. Moderate damage in each case. J. 4 WIA. Dusted off and in satisfactory condition. <i>Heavy</i>	

Date.....26 Sep 71

OPERATIONS LOG

ge1.....

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION TAKEN
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS Nil.	
			No transmissions of reporting interest.	

Date 27 Sep 71

OPERATIONS LOG

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ge.....

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION TAKEN
			<p>PRE-PLANNED TASKS</p> <p>Land Clearing at base of NUI DAT HILL commenced for 104 Bty.</p> <p>No transmissions of reporting interest.</p>	

Date 28 Sep 71

OPERATIONS LOG

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ge.....

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION TAKEN
			<p>PRE-PLANNED TASKS</p> <p>Commence land clearing of the perimeter of LUSCOMBE airfield.</p> <p>No transmissions of reporting interest.</p>	

Date. 29. Sep. 71

OPERATIONS LOG

ge.....1.....

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION TAKEN
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS Nil. No transmissions of reporting interest.	

Date 30 Sep 71

OPERATIONS LOG

Page 1

To be maintained by the Duty Offr/2IC.

DATE/TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION TAKEN
			PRE-PLANNED TASKS Nil.	
			No transmissions of reporting interest.	