

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Infantry units

Item number: 7/1/98

**Item: 1 Battalion Royal Australian
Regiment**

Narrative

Annexes

[1-30 Dec 1968]

COVERING LETTER

Reference No.

To: OIC, Military History Section, AHQ.

enclose Commanders Diary (AF C 2118) (Adapted) dated at Part 2.

Please return receipt below.

(Signature) 

Appointment
(OC Unit or senior staff officer)

SECRET

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

COMMANDERS DIARY

OF

Unit or Formation 1st BATTALION, ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT

From 1 DECEMBER 1968 To 31 DECEMBER 1968

INDEX

Narrative (AF C 2118)

ANNEXES

- * A Duty officer's log
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- 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
.....	to
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† NIL
† RETAINED
† Despatched to

on.....

* 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 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 and orders given. The day's fighting, including company movements. Commander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

tential importance.

o officers, men and equipment.

oment 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 documents issued and received, routine returns, etc. All and the time of receipt or despatch is to be given.

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.

COMMANDER'S DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted Pro Form)

MONTH AND YEAR DECEMBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION ...1.BAB.....

COAMMANDING OFFICER Lt.Col.P.H..BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	1 Dec		Normal TAOR ptls reported nothing during their recce and obsn.	
	2 Dec	0900	Maj R.C. HUTTON, the Bn 2IC, gave orders for Op GOODWOOD in the absence of the CO who was on R and R leave.	
	2 Dec	1800	The CO returned from R and R.	
	2 Dec		Ptls within the TAOR found nothing significant to report.	
	3 Dec	0700	Road convoy started moving from NUI DAT.	
YS 2780	3 Dec	1100	The Bn was complete in the area of FSPB-DYKE. A Coy with 2 Tp C Sqn, B Coy and C Coy started moving into the coy AOs. D Coy remained in the area of FSPB DYKE at 2780.	
FSPB DYKE	3 Dec	1100	A sect of 12 Pl found a freshly killed deer 200m east along track.	
	3 Dec	1115	D Coy were told to move into AO 3, with their sp tp of tks to follow up later. The alternation to D Coy's deployment was due to an estimate that en threat in the area was now diminished.	
	3 Dec	1345	D Coy commenced moving.	
	3 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy and 2 Tp C Sqn 295823, B Coy 293830, C Coy 304833, D Coy 273922.	
307839	4 Dec	0830	7 Pl 6 Coy contacted 3 groups of en of 5, 3 and 2 men. En were dressed in black, armed with AK.47s and were in the area of a bunker system. Shooting was heard to the en's rear, presumably from depth pits to the east.	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR... DECEMBER 1968...

REFERENCE MAP.....

UNIT/FORMATION... 1 RAR.....

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
YS 294831	4 Dec	1000	B Coy found a bombed bunker system which appeared to have been vacated hurriedly. It consisted of 12 five man bunkers, some with kitchen and briefing area.	
281842	4 Dec	1224	10 Pl found 4 old bunkers covered by dead fall.	
294834	4 Dec	1320	5 Pl found 470 lb of unpolished rice on a three foot high rack. It had been cached 2 weeks before and was located by a barely visible track.	
307839	4 Dec	1347	9 Pl, whilst on a recce of the area of the 7 Pl contact, received fire from one auto wpn, possibly a BAR, and several lighter wps, possibly AK.47s. 3 bunkers were located and a recce showed a camp ran across the ridge from north to south. 9 Pl withdrew and the camp was subjected to three air strikes.	
278884	4 Dec	1410	11 Pl found a camp containing 7 bunkers, 4 with overhead protection.	
307839	4 Dec	1850	C Coy reached the area of the camp but were forced to delay detailed search due to failing light.	
	4 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy 300833, B Coy 299845, C Coy (-) 307837, 9 Pl and 2 Tp C Sqn 304832, D Coy (-) 285848, 11 Pl 281852.	
FSPB DYKE	4 Dec	1949	102 Bty fired its 50,000th round in DS of 1 RAR, appropriately 4 Dec is St Barbara's Day.	
307837	5 Dec	0740	C Coy re-entered the camp and started searching.	

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 DECEMBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
307839	5 Dec	1013	G Coy started moving towards bound G. They left behind 9 Pl and 2 Tp to destroy the camp which was found to be 300m x 200m in size, consisting of 20 bunkers and capable of holding at least a coy size force. In the camp were found 20 RPD rds and 5 rolls of det wire. Also The air strikes were found to have been too far to the west, damaging only 2 bunkers. The tks destroyed the bunkers by running on to them and then turning, making the bunkers quite unusable.	
308840	5 Dec	1105	Forward elm of G Coy sighted 3 en at 30m. G Coy then probed forward and at 1206 hrs came under fire from 5 - 6 bunkers.	
	5 Dec	1216	The CO ordered B Coy to investigate the area of the creek at YS 310844 with a view to sealing off any en attempting to escape north from G Coy's contact.	
326835	5 Dec	1330	A Coy found a small bunker system of 4 bunkers covering an area of 50m x 30m. At this stage A Coy, having linked up with 3 Tp C Sqn from DYKE, were moving north to secure the area of a ridge near bound D.	
308840	5 Dec	1500	G Coy with 2 Tp C Sqn and supported by arty swept through the en camp. It contained innumerable bunkers, all of which had been vacated.	
308840	5 Dec	1524	G Coy were ordered not to delay further for demolition tasks but to press on until the en were located.	

1 B P Coy-275/65-55m

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted) Form
UNIT/FORMATION1 RAR.....

MONTH AND YEARDECEMBER..1968.....

REFERENCE MAP

COAMMANDING OFFICER Lt. Col. P. H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
YS 326840	5 Dec	1625	A tk of 3 Tp was disabled by an engine failure. The CO ordered A Coy to continue to secure bound D and to be there by last light. They were to send one pl to escort the tks back to the forest trail, from where they were to return to DYKE towing the disabled tk, and then follow up the coy.	
	5 Dec	1630	2 flame thrower teams were detached to Coy D 4/12 Light Infantry. The coy had been in close contact throughout the day and required assistance to destroy bunkers, without having to withdraw. 1 ATF were unable to help and so accordingly the CO offered these two Aslt Pnr teams which were accepted.	
	5 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy (-) 327843, 3 Pl 327841, B Coy (-) 311847, 5 Pl 310863, C Coy (with 2 Tp C Sqn) 319839, D Coy (-) 296866, 10 Pl 299861.	
	6 Dec		C Coy continued sweeping the ridge to the east while A Coy maintained blocking posns. No contact with the en occured.	
327843	6 Dec	0926	A Coy took over control of 2 Tp when they married up with C Coy. At this stage C Coy moved north west while ACoy waited to marry up with 3 Tp. When this occured A Coy, joined by the CO for part of their move to the trail to assist in navigation, with 2 and 3 Tps moved along the axis of the FIRESTONE Trail to the north east corner of the AO. B and D Coys continued patrolling AOs 2 and 3 respectively.	
319847	6 Dec	1645	In a camouflaged bunker C Coy discovered a small cache containing 1500 rds of 7.92, .303	

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..... DECEMBER 1968.....

REFERENCE MAP.....

UNIT/FORMATION..... 1 RAR.....

COMMANDING OFFICER..... Lt Col P.H. BENNETT.....

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			and other smaller calibre ammo plus $\frac{1}{4}$ jerrycan of oil.	
YS 318847	6 Dec	1747	C Coy found a further 500 rds of 7.92 ammo.	
	6 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy (-) 339853, 2 Pl / 3 Tp 337849, B Coy 317861, C Coy 319847, D Coy (-) 296866, 10 Pl 298866.	
	7 Dec		A, B and D Coys continued patrolling through the north east of AO WONDAI without contact.	
			C Coy finished their search of feature E and moved south towards features B and C.	
315847	7 Dec	0917	9 Pl discovered two bunkers, each 20m square. At one of the bunkers there was a booby-trapped cluster bomb unit (CBU) which was destroyed.	
320844	7 Dec	1050	A sect 7 Pl found three 8' x 8' bunkers with 2' overhead protection and interconnecting tunnel.	
314868	7 Dec	1230	11 Pl found two defused and empty 250 lb bombs.	
314840	7 Dec	1640	2 Pl with 3 Tp married up with C Coy to assist them with their clearing of features B and C.	
	7 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy (-) 334871, B Coy 325865, C Coy 313838 (with 2 Pl and 3 Tp), D Coy (-) 315864, 10 Pl 313864.	
	8 Dec		A, B and D Coys were restricted to local patrolling around their ni locs. C Coy continued their search of feature.	
313838	8 Dec	1005	C Coy discovered a cache containing 22000 x .30 cal rds, 2000 x .50 cal rds, 48 anti-	

1 B P Coy-275/65-55m

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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)
Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

MONTH AND YEAR DECEMBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	8 Dec	1400	personel mines, 141 Chicom grens and 3 claymores. The cache was found in a bunker system which had not been fully occupied within the previous week or so. In all, 85 bunkers were found during the day. The body of a VC killed in the earlier contact was found. A trace of an extension to AO WONDAI arrived from TF. Although it was to be operative from 10 Dec the CO arranged clearance for the coys to move outside the present AO to prepare for searching the new area.	
	8 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy (-) 334871, 3 Pl 334872, B Coy 325865, C Coy + 2 Pl and 3 Tp 313838, D Coy 315865.	
	8 Dec	1810	A, B and D Coys were ordered to move out on to the ENGINEER Trail where they were to be briefed on the next phase of the op. C Coy was to continue searching the present area.	
	9 Dec		A Coy commenced patrolling in the extension of the AO, immediately to the north of the ENGINEER Trail, while B and D Coys moved along the axis to posn themselves for searching in the AO extension on 10 Dec. C Coy continued their investigations of AO 1.	
YS 310836	9 Dec	0950	C Coy found the body of one VC dressed in black. The VC, who had died of multiple gunshot wounds, had been buried for about four days.	
268806	9 Dec	1520	Atk Pl found a week old animal snare.	
276809	9 Dec	1535	Atk Pl found 12 fighting pits. The pits were six months old and none of them had over-	

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.....DECEMBER 1968.....

REFERENCE MAP.....

UNIT/FORMATION..... 1 RAR.....

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
YS 269811	9 Dec	1610	head projection. Atk Pl discovered 50m of crawl trench and one fighting pit. Again the age of the diggings was about six months.	
	9 Dec	1800	C Coy reported that the day's search had uncovered 53 bunkers and a bunker used as an RAP. The RAP bunker measured 15' x 10' and contained med supplies and an ophthalmoscope, all in excellent condition. Docus found referred to C3 Coy D2 Bn.	
	9 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy (-) 319876, 2 Pl 342860, B Coy 273871, C Coy 313838, D Coy (-) 299879, 10 Pl 303879, 12 Pl 289881.	
	9 Dec		During the day 2 Pl and 3 Tp completed their attachment to C Coy and reverted to cmd of A Coy and C Sqn respectively.	
	9 Dec	1830	Atk Pl were ordered to provide one sect as an escort for a tp of tks who were to move on 10 Dec via the FIRESTONE Trail, Route 15 and ENGINEER Trail to provide sp on call for B and D Coys from the area of DIGGERS REST. They were to return during the evening. C Coy were ordered to move north on 10 Dec through AO WONDAL to the ENGINEER Trail and then west into the new area of search, west of CEDAR.	
309842	10 Dec	1015	C Coy found more bunkers. 7 Pl were nominated to remain behind to search and destroy them.	
250802	10 Dec	1105	The leading tk of 2 Tp, moving west, was damaged by a pressure mine on the track. There	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR DECEMBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt. Col. P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			were no cas and the tk was towed back to DYKE by other elms of C Sqn. 2 Tp then continued moving, via Route 15, to the area of B Coy.	
YS 313838	10 Dec	1157	G Coy moved north leaving 7 Pl to complete their task.	
288888	10 Dec	1510	A sentry of 10 Pl saw one VC 100m west of their posn and fired at him. An ensuing sweep revealed nothing.	
250802	10 Dec	1537	A veh of 2 Tp A Sqn hit a mine in the same vicinity as the earlier incident. The tp was returning to FSPB JULIA from FSPB DYKE. Two cas were sustained and both were casevaced. They were both A Sqn personel.	
313838	10 Dec	1812	7 Pl reported having destroyed 21 bunkers and there was still 50 more to be blown. The search to date had produced 1 CBU, 6 RPG, 6 Rifle grenades, 8 Chicom grenades, 100 lbs of rice and some docus.	
288893	10 Dec	1815	12 Pl found 10 old disused bunkers.	
	10 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy 332878, B Coy (-) 272878, 4 Pl 273887, 5 Pl 265878, G Coy (-) 298875, 7 Pl 313838, D Coy (-) 287894, 10 Pl 284887, 12 Pl 295893.	
	10 Dec	1820	GO attended HQ 1 ATF and learned that the FSPB loc at DYKE was to be moved, on 11 Dec, to the area of DIGGERS REST at YS 270870. A sect from 104 Bty was to be included in the grouping.	

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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION..... 1 RAR.....

MONTH AND YEAR... DECEMBER 1968.....

REFERENCE MAP.....

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
YS 270870	11 Dec	0735	B Coy reported DIGGERS REST secure for the fly in of the FSPB.	
293896	11 Dec	1005	12 Pl fired at 2 VC in a dry creek bed. They managed to escape to the north.	
	11 Dec	1100	Bn HQ started the fly in to DIGGERS REST. The move was completed in 45 mins.	
267890	11 Dec	1208	5 Pl found 450 lbs of rice and a bag of salt.	
283898	11 Dec	1105	11 Pl found 4 very old, disused bunkers.	
	11 Dec	1250	All coys were informed that there was clearance to move into the A0 extension.	
267890	11 Dec	1407	5 Pl, now joined by 4 Pl, found a bunker system with inter-connecting tunnels.	
240855	11 Dec	1420	2 Tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt was ambushed by en using a grenade and small arms fire. One Engr was slightly wounded.	
267890	11 Dec	1552	4 and 5 Pls, having searched 12 bunkers, had found 2 homemade clinometers, 1 arty/mor plotting board and one loaded RPG2.	
	11 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy 273891, B Coy 267890, C Coy (-) 262880, 7 Pl 313838, 8 Pl 255872, D Coy (-) 285907, 10 Pl 285906.	
	12 Dec	0941	7 Pl were air lifted in to DIGGERS REST prior to rejoining C Coy. A satchel of docs (captured) brought with them indicated that the camp at YS 313838 had been occupied by 74 NVA Arty 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 DECEMBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col, P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
YS 245885	12 Dec	1155	9 Pl with C Coy HQ contacted en in two bunkers. 9 Pl returned fire and engaged the bunkers with M72. Eventually the posn was secured. In the posn were 7 bunkers, the first two of which had been occupied by 2 - 3 en. A US claymore and 20lbs of rice being cooked was recovered.	
260905	12 Dec	1203	Forward, elm of B Coy exchanged fire with 4 - 6 en dressed in khaki, armed with AK, 47s and M 79 and carrying large packs. The en broke into two groups and disappeared to the north east and north west. During a follow-up sweep the en who had moved north west were again contacted. It was not known whether any of the en were hit. 2786798 Pte G. J. SHEEDY received a very light shrap wound to the left thumb and 2239370 Lcpl S. L. NELSON a shrap wound to the left cheek however both remained on duty.	
	12 Dec	1345	While continuing to move north the forward pl of B Coy (4 Pl) saw a VC, signalling to the rear. Immediately afterwards B Coy were engaged by .30 cal MG. The fwd sect of 4 Pl with the US patrol dog team were initially pinned down but eventually returned to 4 Pl. They reported that they had seen unoccupied bunkers with RPG grenades stacked in them. They also reported the loss of a patrol dog. The coy then withdrew to YS 262901, after having the edge of the camp with a marker panel, to allow arty and mors to engage.	
233891	12 Dec	1425	8 Pl engaged 1 VC on the track. He escaped to the north west.	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR DECEMBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 BAR

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
YS 273914	12 Dec	1510	10 Pl engaged 4 VC after the en had run into the rear man of the pl, who fired first. The en were dressed in blue and carrying heavy packs though wpns were not seen. A sweep of the area revealed nothing.	
252886	12 Dec	1650	C Coy found 3 bunkers in thick bamboo.	
	12 Dec	1700	After the en camp was engaged with arty and mors B Coy probed forward, back into the camp area.	
	12 Dec	1725	During the recce forward B Coy saw an en ptl moving from the direction of the camp towards them. The en were engaged by 6 Pl and a fire fight continued for about ten mins.	
274914	12 Dec	1736	While setting up claymores in an ambush posn one sect of 12 Pl were engaged by a party of en who fired RPG and auto wpns. The sect returned fire hitting at least one en, who could be heard moaning in a nearby bomb crater. In this contact 2737069 Lcpl J.M. RANDS was killed, by a gunshot wound to the chest.	
	12 Dec	1810	B Coy were forced to withdraw to a ni loc due to failing light. Arrangements were made to send in an OPDEM of ammo, after which B Coy would clear the camp.	
	12 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy (-) 273878, 1 Pl 272883, B Coy 262901, C Coy (-) 252886, 8 Pl 225896, D Coy (-) 269915, 10 Pl 273914, 11 Pl 274914, 12 Pl 270914.	

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 DECEMBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
YS 260905	13 Dec	0820	B Coy reached the camp but found it deserted. It consisted of 6 bunkers (8' x 6') with 3' overhead protection. 3' deep and 2' wide comms trenches linked the bunkers. 12' underground a 12' long tunnel was also found. The camp had been built 12 months before though rebuilding had taken place within the previous 3 - 6 weeks. In the camp B Coy found 2x1 month old graves, 7 RPG rounds in a tunnel and 150lbs of rice.	
245886	13 Dec	1000	7 Pl, leading C Coy (-), were fired on by a small party in bunkers. 7 Pl formed a firm base and fired in sp of 9 Pl who assaulted from the right flank. 2 VC were killed and 2 AK.47s and 1 RPG 2 was recovered. 16 bags, each holding 40lbs of rice, were also found. In this action 3792974 Pte N.D. WALTON received a gunshot wound to the right shoulder, 2787331 Pte C.J. EATON shrap to the right arm, 2787230 Lcpl P.J. KERCHER shrap wounds to the right side, 2787029 Tcpl I.W. EVERETT minor shrap to the stomach.	
263905	13 Dec	1230	6 Pl found a bunker system consisting of 9 bunkers, each capable of holding 6 - 8 people, and interconnected by comms trenches. Blood stained bandages were found in the camp. The installation was in good condition and was thought to have been occupied by about one en pl who had maintained a standing ptl at the camp at 260905.	
230893	13 Dec	1454	While securing an LZ for later use by C Coy, 8 Pl heard voices to their south. A ptl was sent to investigate and came under fire from en in bunkers. The sect was withdrawn to	

1 B P Coy-275/65-55m

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR DECEMBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			the pl, while arty engaged the camp. 8 Pl then assaulted from the right and secured the objective, which was a camp containing 15 bunkers. There was no sign of en and they were thought to have escaped to the south west.	
YS 273914	13 Dec	1535	While moving into an ambush posn 10 Pl saw an en party to their front. They engaged the en with small arms fire and engaged the area with arty. On sweeping through 10 Pl found a pair of sandals.	
261906	13 Dec	1630	5 Pl found a small camp containing two bunkers. One contained a kitchen area and the other had a table and chairs on the roof, hidden beneath a canopy of leaves. One track leading from the camp had panji pits sited along it.	
242893	13 Dec	1700	14 VC armed with AK.47s moved across a clearing, 75m to the front of 7 Pl. 7 Pl opened fire. One VC was killed in the initial burst of fire. The en quickly moved into a bunker posn where they were assaulted by 7 Pl who secured the area and then followed up an en escape route south west for 200m. During the contact the en had engaged C Coy with 60mm mor.	
	13 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy 273878, B Coy (-) 261903, 5 Pl 259904, C Coy (-) 242890, 8 Pl 230893, D Coy (-) 269915, 10 Pl 273913, 12 Pl 272915.	
241892	14 Dec	0840	Whilst moving through a bunker system 9 Pl were engaged by two VC in a bunker at a range of 20m. Both VC were killed in the initial fire fight and one AK.47 and a PPS SMG were	

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 DECEMBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			captured.	
YS 234893	14 Dec	1000	A sentry from 8 Pl fired on one VC who approached their posn. The en, dressed in greens and wearing a red scarf, was carrying a long rifle. A second VC, unseen, fired M79 into the pl posn. The sentry was withdrawn while arty was used on the area. A later sweep showed nil results.	
	14 Dec	1605	6 Pl who had been left to carry out demolition of the camp found on 13 Dec completed the task and moved towards their ni loc.	
235895	14 Dec	1615	8 Pl, whilst moving, ran into 2 VC wearing greens. In the opening burst of fire one VC was KIA. The other escaped. One AK.47 was captured.	
279889	14 Dec	1630	3 Pl found an old camp which had not been used for 3 months. One RPG 7 rd was located.	
	14 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy (-) 273878, 1 Pl 287896, sect 2 Pl 269881, 3 Pl 277887, B Coy (-) 254898, 4 Pl 254902, 6 Pl 259904, C Coy 230890, D Coy (-) 269916, 10 Pl 273913, 12 Pl 272915.	
254902	15 Dec	0730	2 VC dressed in black and wearing bush hats were fired on by 4 Pl after the en had approached their posn. The en escaped to the east.	
227889	15 Dec	1030	4 VC aproached 8 Pl's posn and when fired on returned fire with an RPG 2, slightly wounding 2786680 Pte S.H. HOBSON, 44773 Pte J.E. HODGES and 2787107 Pte B.C. BROWN. 3 en were KIA but a sweep failed to locate the fourth. The en were dressed in greens	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

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MONTH AND YEAR DECEMBER 1968

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UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			and from them were captured 2 AK.47s and 1 RPG 2.	
YS 266907	15 Dec	1205	11 Pl found 100lbs of rice on a raised platform and covered by plastic.	
268408	15 Dec	1215	Lt Col TRENNERY, CO elect, ^{1 RAR} completed a morning visit during which he had been briefed by the CO.	(X)
268408	15 Dec	1241	11 Pl were fired at by 3 en in 2 bunkers. While withdrawing to allow arty engage the en posn 11 Pl contacted a further 2 VC to their right rear who were moving into a separate bunker posn.	
261903	15 Dec 7	1310	6 Pl completed the demolition of the second camp found on 12 Dec and moved to join B Coy before moving out to carry out ambush task.	
	15 Dec	1417	Maj BELL had linked up his D Coy HQ and 12 Pl with 11 Pl. 10 Pl were closing to achieve concentration prior to D Coy carrying out a co-ordinated clearance of the bunker systems.	(X)
294891	15 Dec	1530	1 Pl fired on a VC dressed in a green or dark brown uniform and armed with an AK.47. The en fled north east.	
	15 Dec	1545	D Coy completed their sweep of the en camp but all en had withdrawn. The area contained 13 bunkers and a cooking area. The coy found one grenade, various cooking utensils and a radio made up of parts of various PRC 10 sets.	
254902	15 Dec	1610	Two sentrys from 4 Pl fired on one VC who was moving east on the track. The VC was KIA.	

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COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
YS 254894	15 Dec	1720	and his AK.47 was captured. He was wearing a black shirt, maroon shorts and sandals. While deploying into an ambush posn 6 Pl contacted 5 VC at a range of 30m and two VC were seen to be hit. 38808 2Lt G.W. PRENDERGAST received gunshot wounds to the right shoulder and left ear, so Sgt SMITH took over comd and swept through the area of the contact. All en had withdrawn. The body of a VC was later found.	
	15 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy (-) 273878, 1 Pl (-) 296892, sect 1 Pl 292891, sect 2 Pl 269881, 3 Pl 281889, B Coy (-) 254898, 4 Pl 254902, 6 Pl 254904, C Coy (-) 230892, 7 Pl 235890, 8 Pl 225888, D Coy (-) 269910, 10 Pl 270907, 12 Pl 268911.	
254902	16 Dec	0659	4 Pl fired at two VC approaching their posn. 1 VC was MIA, a sweep of the area located the stock of an AK.47 which had been hit by small arms.	
254902	16 Dec	1053	4 Pl were receiving a maintdem by Albatross when 2 VC approached their loc. The VC, alerted by the approach of the hel, were able to avoid the sentries' opening fire and escape.	
263876	16 Dec	1125	2 Pl fired on an unknown number of VC, heard moving to their right rear. A later sweep revealed nothing.	
235890	16 Dec	1425	A party of 3 - 4 VC moved past 7 Pl who were in an ambush posn on a track. The en were not using the track but passed the flank of the ambush. When engaged the en fled into	

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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

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REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
YS 269901	16 Dec	1556	a nearby bunker system, which when later cleared, revealed no trace of the en. 12 Pl found a cache containing 4 radio receivers and docs.	
279890	16 Dec	1610	1 Pl found 25 bunkers and five tunnels. The pl had to stay in the area overnight to complete the demolition, during 17 Dec.	
	16 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy (-) 267890, 1 Pl 272891, 2 Pl 256887, B Coy (-) 254898, 4 Pl 254902, 6 Pl 256895, C Coy (-) 230892, 7 Pl 235890, 8 Pl 225888, D Coy (-) 269910, 10 Pl 271911, 12 Pl 271901.	
269908	17 Dec	1040	One sect of 12 Pl found 800lbs of rice and 3 transistor radios. The sect remained in the posn in ambush before returning to join their pl at 1130 hrs. At this stage Maj BELL was quite convinced that there was en activity in the general area of 12 Pl. Accordingly he carried out a detailed search of the area with 11 Pl assisting.	
269881	17 Dec	1227	A ptl from Atk Pl fired at one VC who approached their posn from the rear. The en escaped.	
247901	17 Dec	1338	At least 3 VC approached to within 25m of 5 Pl in ambush as the sentries were changing. Alerted by the noise the en halted. 5 Pl opened fire with a claymore, which malfunctioned, and then fired with M60. A sect comd fired into the body of a fallen VC to ensure the VC was dead. The remainder of the en went to ground. 5 Pl then swept the area but	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

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COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
YS 265889	17 Dec	1415	the en had escaped dragging the body with them, as a heavy blood trail later showed. 3 Pl found five bunkers containing 1 cwt of rice and some docus.	
271908	17 Dec	1555	11 Pl found 700 lbs of rice, 40 lbs of salt, 1 quart of salad oil and 1 quart of kerosine. Assorted radio parts were also found.	
254885	17 Dec	1719	The forward scout of 1 Pl fired on two en who approached him along a track. The leading en was KIA and the other escaped. The dead VC was apparently going to get water because he was unarmed and only carrying water bottles. A sweep of the area located a bunker system in which was found 120 lbs of rice and some cooking utensils.	
260881	17 Dec	1808	A Coy reported 2 Pl had found a cache containing 2 typewriters, a portable tape recorder, an unidentified metal object, med supplies, a sandbag of salt, 3 sandbags of rice, red, yellow and blue dyes and a quantity of clothing for both men and women.	
	17 Dec		NI locs: A Coy (-) 256886, 2 Pl 260881, 3 Pl 264889, B Coy (-) 249898, 5 Pl 249900, 6 Pl 256895, C Coy (-) 230892, 7 Pl 235890, 9 Pl 229895, D Coy (-) 271908, 10 Pl 272911, 12 Pl 271901.	
	18 Dec	0730	2 Tp C Sqn with a Sqn Comd Veh left DIGGERS REST to redeploy at JULIA in defence of TF HQ. This left no armd vehs in sp of the Bn.	
256886	18 Dec	0800	1 Pl found a small camp of 4 bunkers. In the camp they found 9 half-eaten meals (left	

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

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AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

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COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			overnight), 2 Chicom grenades, 1 Chicom claymore, 100 lbs of rice and clothing including female attire.	
YS 271903	18 Dec	0920	D Coy reported that 12 Pl had discovered a cache containing 4 transistor radios and 1 Aust individual tent. The cache had been found on 16 Dec, but in the interval 12 Pl had been ambushing it.	
264889	18 Dec	0922	3 Pl discovered a recently killed VC minus head and right arm. It was apparent that the en had been killed by arty during 2 Pl's contact on 16 Dec. The body was found wrapped in plastic in the area of some tunnels. A second body of a VC killed in the same action was also found.	
	18 Dec	1129	D Coy completed marrying up with the pls and moved north to set up ambush points on a known track which runs east - west from the eastern side of the BINH SON plantation.	
	18 Dec	1259	A Coy moved west along the southern side of the SUOI CAU MOI with the aim of continuing destruction of any en camps found.	
250885	18 Dec	1417	1 Pl found 5 bunkers running east - west. Maj PATTERSON left 3 Pl to carry out the necessary demolition.	
229895	18 Dec	1529	4 VC passed a 9 Pl ambush at right angles at a distance of 40 m. The sentry opened fire but the en crossed on to the south side of the creek. Whilst sweeping across the creek in	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

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

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COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			pursuit, 9 Pl were fired upon but suffered no cas. The en fled from the area leaving behind an AK.47 mag.	
YS 247885	18 Dec	1600	1 Pl found 11 bunkers running east - west along the south side of the SUOI CAU MOI. Maj PATTERSON advised that these would be destroyed on 19 Dec.	
	18 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy (-) 246884, 3 Pl 250885, B Coy (-) 249898, 5 Pl 246902, 6 Pl 256895, C Coy (-) 230892, 7 Pl 235890, 9 Pl 229850, D Coy 274920 (in linear ambush).	
360860	18 Dec	1855	The direct support Possum spotted 4 - 5 red and white flashlights. On establishing there were no friendly troops in the area 102 Bty engaged them with POSSUM adjusting fire. The lights were extinguished.	
276847	19 Dec	0751	POSSUM reported sighting 3 packs. They were in the general area that had been engaged by 102 Bty after a IIFV report of an en HQ loc. The CO ordered that the Atk Pl to move from FSPB DIGGERS REST to recco the area packs.	
230890	19 Dec	0805	A sect of 8 Pl found 1380 lbs of rice in a metal trough 2' above the ground.	
229895	19 Dec	0849	9 Pl engaged 6 VC who were crossing a creek 50m from them. Two VC were killed, one of whom was believed to be an Int Offr. He was carrying both docus of an int nature and approx 20 unopened letters. His 7.62mm pistol was recovered. Blood trails indicated a third VC had been wounded.	

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

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COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
YS 258902	19 Dec	1015	6 Pl, found blood stains and a sizeable amount of human brain tissue. This was thought to be a result of the 6 Pl contact of 3 days before. A track led from the scene of this find to the area of the contact mentioned.	
243888	19 Dec	1240	2 Pl were moving parallel to a track when the second sect was hit by two claymores and the leading and rear sects were hit by small arms fire. A Coy quickly reinforced the pl and brought arty to bear on the en, who were in a bunker system. 11 cas were withdrawn to a winch point where a DUSTOFF aircraft evacuated them. A Coy then secured the camp but the en had escaped. In the camp were found 8 bunkers, a living area, 2 claymores, a 105mm shell fixed as a booby trap and a quantity of med supplies. The cas for this action were: 215637 Pte J.H. KALMA KIA, 2788873 Pt W.A. ROBERTS gunshot wound to the right arm, 2788614 Pte M.R. BOULTON gunshot wound left foot, 215176 Lcpl C.J. DURBRIDGE mult frag wounds to left thigh and right hand, 3791790 Pte G.A. FARRINGTON frag wound to left arm, Pte R.P. SLINGSBY shrap wound to right arm, 217529 Pte R.D BOYD shrap wound to face. Also 3790803 Gnr BARRY of 102 Bty and 2789080 Sapper GILMORE, 3791253 Sapper HOOKER, 4719009 Cpl CLAYTON of 1 Fd Sqn were wounded.	
276847	19 Dec	1618	The Atk Pl reported that the "3 packs" sighted by POSSUM were in fact innocuous stag-horns.	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

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

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Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
<u>YS 234897</u>	<u>19 Dec</u>	<u>1659</u>	<u>8 Pl sighted 2 VC carrying a stretcher borne cas. 8 Pl then heard noises of an occupied area near-by. On following up they killed a VC sentry and whilst probing the area were fired on by en who then withdrew. 8 Pl continued probing but lost contact and were halted by failing light. The VC KIA in this action was the two hundred and fiftieth (250th) killed by the 1 RAR Gp during the current tour.</u>	
<u>264905</u>	<u>19 Dec</u>	<u>1715</u>	<u>B Coy found a bunker system under construction. The coy were not able to search the area due to lack of daylight but Maj GEORGE informed the CO that a detailed search would commence on 20 Dec.</u>	
<u>266908</u>	<u>19 Dec</u>	<u>1810</u>	<u>5 Pl found an estimated 3 month old VC grave.</u>	
	<u>19 Dec</u>		<u>Ni locs: A Coy 244889, B Coy (-) 266906, 4 Pl 267904, 5 Pl 266910, C Coy (-) 230892, 8 Pl 238897, 9 Pl 229896, D Coy 274920 (in linear ambush).</u>	
<u>244889</u>	<u>20 Dec</u>	<u>0900</u>	<u>A Coy reported finding an operating table and an area used as a dispensary. Docus found included an indent for med supplies. 300 lbs of rice and 50 lbs of salt were also discovered.</u>	
<u>229896</u>	<u>20 Dec</u>	<u>0925</u>	<u>9 Pl ambushed 7 VC moving south. They killed 3 VC. One of the killed was carrying an AK.47 and the other two were unarmed and carrying rations.</u>	
<u>241895</u>	<u>20 Dec</u>	<u>0935</u>	<u>8 Pl ambushed 2 VC who were moving rapidly along a track from a 9 Pl ambush posn. One VC with an AK.47 was KIA.</u>	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

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COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
YS 241898	20 Dec	1050	The forward elements of 8 Pl killed one VC in a bunker and recovered his ^{AK} .47.	
244889	20 Dec	1055	3 Pl found another enemy camp and reported there were more than 20 bunkers in the area. Major PATTERSON moved Coy HQ and 1 Pl to join 3 Pl, leaving 2 Pl to complete the destruction of the bunkers in their previously found camp.	
241898	20 Dec	1140	8 Pl found a small hide outside a bunker system which contained 2 more sights, a small quantity of rice, clothing and some documents.	
244889	20 Dec	1253	2 Pl found 400 lbs of rice, 30 lbs of salt, a large quantity of medical supplies and medical instruments including a stethoscope and a blood pressure measure. There was also a small cache of explosives containing two claymores (one US, one Chicom), 1 x 105mm round set up for electrical detonation and 5000 small arms rounds of various calibres. At this stage 2 Pl had blown all fifteen bunkers in the camp.	
240889	20 Dec	1400	2 Pl found a further 8 bunkers, a still warm fire and some recently cooked rice.	
245881	20 Dec	1540	2 Pl located 11 bunkers and stated that there might be more immediately across the creek.	
	20 Dec	1720	A Coy reported that they had blown 93 bunkers in the last 3 days.	
241889	20 Dec	1755	A sentry of 1 Pl saw a VC approaching the pl while they were digging in for the night ambush. Alerted by the sounds of digging the VC went into a crouch. The sentry then opened fire, missed, and the VC fled to the south west.	

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

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Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	20 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy (-) 241889, 2 Pl 246884, 3 Pl 239889, B Coy (-) 266906, 4 Pl 271904, 5 Pl 266910, C Coy (-) 230892, 8 Pl 235898, 9 Pl 230896, D Coy (-) 274920, sect 10 Pl 279919,, sect 11 Pl 270920, 12 Pl 275914.	
	20 Dec	1930	The CO advised all coys that the op would continue over the Christmas period with a 24 hour cease fire from 241800 Dec.	
	21 Dec		B, C and D Coys maintained ambush posns while A Coy, having destroyed all bunkers found, were to move north across the SUOI CAU MOI to between B and C Coys to complete the blocking posns around the BINH SON rubber.	
YS 241889	21 Dec	1030	A Coy found 3 tins of med supplies, mostly blood plasma.	
239889	21 Dec	1054	3 Pl saw hutchies on the north side of the SUOI CAU MOI. Accordingly Maj PATTERSON ordered 3 Pl to set up a fire base covering the objective while he moved the rest of the coy across the creek upstream, to deploy for a right flank attack. The area proved to be unoccupied. 5 graves were found in the area, four quite fresh and one quite old. The four fresh ones were attributed to the C Coy contact in this area at 1700 hrs 13 Dec and 4 VC KIA were credited to C Coy. A Coy also found in the area a well established camp consisting of 15 bunkers used within the last 48 hours.	
272909	21 Dec	1500	While moving to a new ambush area 6 Pl found an en camp which appeared to have been	

1 B P Coy-275/65-55m

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Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			progressively built during the previous 18 months. At least 18 bunkers were located and more were thought to be in the area. The camp had not been used for 4 - 5 days. Maj George decided to remain in this area to destroy the camp during 22 Dec.	
	21 Dec	1635	A Coy reported 30 bunkers destroyed during the day, making a total of 123 bunkers destroyed in AOs 99, 10 and 15.	
	21 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy 239891, B Coy (-) 270910, 4 Pl 271904, 5 Pl 266910, C Coy (-) 230892, 8 Pl 235898, 9 Pl 230896, D Coy (-) 274920, sect 10 Pl 274918, sect 11 Pl 270920.	
	22 Dec		A and B Coys continued to blow bunkers while C and D Coys remained in ambush posns.	
YS 239891	22 Dec	1055	3 Pl completed blowing 6 bunkers they found on 21 Dec.	
241896	22 Dec	1140	While moving to a new ambush posn 7 Pl found 6 bunkers which they believed had been occupied overnight. A blood trail was found in the area.	
	22 Dec	1229	B Coy notified that a total of 41 bunkers had been located and destroyed.	
	22 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy (-) 254899, 1 Pl 257901, 3 Pl 252895, B Coy (-) 270910, 4 Pl 271904, 5 Pl 266910, C Coy (-) 230892, 8 Pl 235898, 9 Pl 230896, D Coy (-) 274920, sect 10 Pl 274918, sect 11 Pl 270920, sect 12 Pl 278918.	
	23 Dec		The coys remained in their present general areas maintaining ambush posns.	
239891	23 Dec	1425	6 Pl completed blowing 25 bunkers, but discovered a further 14 which were to be destroyed	

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

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AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

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UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

MONTH AND YEAR DECEMBER 1968

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COMMANDING OFFICER Lt. Col. P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			later, on the arrival of a further OPDEM of explosives.	
YS 271911	23 Dec	1500	6 Pl found 500 lbs of rice and two transistors.	
	23 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy (-) 254899, 1 Pl 257901, 3 Pl 252895, B Coy 270910, C Coy (-) 230892, sect 7 Pl 237892, sect 8 Pl 235897, D Coy (-) 274920, sect 10 Pl 274918, 12 Pl 278920.	
271911	24 Dec	0930	6 Pl completed blowing 26 bunkers, 11 of which had kitchen areas. The total number of bunkers found and destroyed was now reported as 75. In this loc 6 Pl also found 3 x 75mm aerial rockets, 4 x RPG 7 rounds, 2 x 82mm mor rounds, 200 x 7.62mm rounds, 3 tins of mor charges, 3 Chicom grenades, 1 transistor and 40 med syringes.	
234894	24 Dec	1250	A sect of 8 Pl saw 10 VC dressed in green and black. Arty engaged the area with no known results.	
270911	24 Dec	1305	B Coy located 500 - 700 lbs of rice in 2 caches 15m from each other.	
	24 Dec	1330	The CO left by hel with the Comd 1 ATF to visit the wounded of 1 RAR & sp units in VUNG TAU.	
229891	24 Dec	1459	A standing ptl saw 1 VC armed with an AK.47 moving south west of C Coy's posn. A sweep of the area revealed no sign of the en.	
	24 Dec	1500	The coys commenced withdrawing their pls to a central loc for the Christmas cease-fire period.	

1 B P Coy-275/65-55m

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UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	24 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy 254899, B Coy 270910, C Coy 230892, D Coy 274918.	
	24 Dec	1745	The CO returned from visiting the wounded.	
	24 Dec	1800	CEASE FIRE.	
	24 Dec	1900	The CO informed the coys of the state of the wounded, and wished the coys a happy Christmas.	
YS 230945	24 Dec	2040	The coys reported mor primaries and secondaries to their north. A VC force was attacking FSPB BARBARA of the 2nd Airborne Brigade (ARVN). 102 Bty fired against suspected mor posns.	
	25 Dec		During the day the coys remained in posns near LPs, receiving a Christmas lunch which included two cans of beer for each man. The coys were also visited by the CO and, at different times, by all the offr in BnHQ.	
274914	25 Dec	1407	An armed VC moving from the East fired on D Coy. The fire was returned with a claymore and small arms. The VC fled, leaving behind his AK.47.	
	25 Dec	1438	The Minister for Air and the Comd 1 ATF visited the FSPB where they spoke to soldiers of 1 RAR and 102 Bty.	
	25 Dec	1805	1 ATF advised that the cease-fire was cancelled and normal activities were to be resumed. The coys were informed.	
	25 Dec	1903	D Coy found a blood trail immediately east of their posn. It was too late to investigate.	

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

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AF-C 2118 (Adapted)
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UNIT/FORMATION..... 1 RAR

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COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	25 Dec	1930	due to failing light, but was believed to have been caused by the contact at 1407 hrs. The CO advised D Coy that they were to move north on 26 Dec into an area which had been added to the 1 RAR AO, AO WONDAL.	
	26 Dec	0715	The CO visited the coys by POSSUM and briefed the Coy Comds. A, B and C Coys were to redeploy into pl ambush posns while D Coy was to ambush Route 320 in the extension of the AO.	
YS 236891	26 Dec	0955	While moving to a new ambush posn 8 Pl clashed with about 7 VC, killing two and recovering one AK.47. The gp was carrying packs of rats, clothing and claymore detonators.	
	26 Dec	1430	The Senior RC Chaplain, Chaplain General MORGAN, visited the FSPB and was shown around by the CO.	
264932	26 Dec	1510	While adjusting a DF on the approaches of Route 320 near the east boundary of the BINH SON rubber D Coy saw one VC moving north to south. The DF was used to sweep the area with fire. There was no known results.	
230891	26 Dec	1550	A listening post deployed by C Coy fired on two VC, one of whom was armed with an AK.47 and the other with an RPG 2. The en returned the fire with two B 40 rounds. One VC was believed to have been hit and one AK.47 mag was recovered.	
	26 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy (-) 257901, 1 Pl 252902, 3 Pl 259895, B Coy (-) 270910, 4 Pl 266911, 6 Pl 272915, C Coy (-) 230892, 7 Pl 239897, 8 Pl 237890, sect 9 Pl 230891, D Coy (-) 275934, 10 Pl 273934, 11 Pl 276935.	

1 B P Coy-275/65-55m

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AF - C 2118 (Adapted) Pro Form
 UNIT/FORMATION1 RAR.....
 COAMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

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REFERENCE MAP

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	27 Dec	0830	All coys remained in their blocking posns with minor adjustments. The sect of 104 Bty was air lifted out to FSPB WATTIE, from which 4 RAR were commencing to ptl west towards the 1 RAR AO.	
YS 272912	27 Dec	0930	B Coy reported finding tracks made earlier in the morning by 3 VC who were moving south east towards the camp which they had been blowing.	
254897	27 Dec	1430	3 Pl found 700 lbs of rice in 16 US sandbags and 4 white canvas bags. The rice was destroyed.	
230891	27 Dec	1608	A sentry of C Coy sighted 2 VC moving west to east at a distance of 100 m. The sentry did not fire and a sweep conducted by C Coy disclosed nothing.	
	27 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy (-) 257901, 1 Pl 252903, 3 Pl 252895, B Coy (-) 274919, 5 Pl 270921, 6 Pl 278921, C Coy (-) 230891, 7 Pl 239897, 8 Pl 236890, D Coy (-) 275934, 10 Pl 273934, 11 Pl 276933.	
252903	27 Dec	1900	The CO received greetings from the coys for his fortieth (40th) birthday, and a gift of a walking stick from the Bn.	
	28 Dec	0745	3 VC were engaged by 1 Pl when they reached the north bank of the creek. The leading VC was killed by a burst of M16 fire and his AK.47 and two mags were recovered.	
241897	28 Dec	0825	Two VC engaged 7 Pl whilst they were moving to a new ambush posn. 7 Pl returned fire and carried out a sweep of the area. At this stage 10 - 15 VC opened fire from bunkers with AK.47s, RPG 2 and a claymore. The 1 RAR cas for this action were: 2787020 Pte R.J.	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2113 (Adapted Pro Form)
 UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR
 COAMMANDING OFFICER .. Lt. Col. P.H. BENNETT

MONTH AND YEAR DECEMBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
YS 241897	28 Dec	1540	<p>COX KIA, 38627 2Lt R.T. CONVERY shrap to the left arm, 55388 Lcpl J.E. SMITH shrap to the right arm, 3793313 Pte K.J. ALDERTON shrap wounds to right arm and both legs, 1202037 Pte B.V. TURNER shrap wounds to right arm and left leg, 2787332 Pte E.G. EDMONDS broken finger. 7 Pl withdrew their cas from the area to the rear where they located a winch point for DUSTOFF. At this stage the remainder of the coy closed up and after engaging the area with arty secured the camp. The VC had withdrawn in time. C Coy found 12 bunkers sited in a circle with interconnecting comms trench.</p>	
	28 Dec	1715	<p>C Coy reported that there was no suitable winch point in the area for receiving explosives to destroy the camp. Accordingly it was decided that demolition would be carried out on 29 Dec and C Coy was to find a convenient spot to receive the necessary engr sp and stores.</p>	
	28 Dec		<p>The Comd 1 ATF visited the CO and confirmed that 1 RAR would be relieved by 9 RAR on 1 Jan 69 and approved a proposal to carry out cordon and search ops on the villages of PHU MY and LANG PHUOC HOA. The cordon and search was to be completed by 5 Jan. The CO was to visit FSPB JULIA to give a briefing at 1100 hrs on 29 Dec and a conference was to be held at DIGGERS REST at 1400 hrs on 29 Dec to discuss the 1 ATF sp for the cordon and searches.</p> <p>Ni locs: A Coy (-) 257901, 1 Pl 252903, 3 Pl 252895, B Coy (-) 274919, 5 Pl 270921, 6 Pl 278921, C Coy 241898, D Coy (-) 275934, 10 Pl 273934, 11 Pl 280935, sect 10 Pl 276933.</p>	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2113 (Adapted to Form)
UNIT/FORMATION ... 1 RAR

MONTH AND YEAR ... DECEMBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

COAMMANDING OFFICER Lt. Col. P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
YS 224897	29 Dec		C Coy was to carry out demolition of the en camp and then search the area to the north and west. The remaining coys were to maintain their blocking posns with minor adjustments.	
	29 Dec	0940	C Coy found an en camp quite similar to the one located on 28 Dec. In the camp there was a grave containing a VC killed by a gunshot wound. The body appeared to have been buried during the previous 12 hours and was presumed to be a result of 7 Pl's contact.	
257901	29 Dec	1145	C Coy completed the demolition of both en camps.	
	29 Dec	1226	1 VC was seen moving north by a sentry of 2 Pl. A sweep of the area was conducted but yielded no results.	
	29 Dec	1315	The CO and CO 9 RAR returned from the briefing at HQ 1 ATF at FSPB JULIA. The changeover of the bns was to take place by air; 9 RAR were to be landed in the ENGINEER Trail in the vicinity of DIGGERS REST and the helo were then to extract the coys of 1 RAR from their present locs to the area of FSPB JULIA. One coy was to be extracted to NUI DAT on 31 Dec to act as the 1 ATF reaction coy. It was agreed that the extraction of 1 RAR elm from the FSPB was to take place 200m to the west.	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted) Pro Form
UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

MONTH AND YEAR DECEMBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

COAMMANDING OFFICER Lt. Col. P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	29 Dec	1400	A conference was held by the CO with representatives from 1 Div Int Unit, 1 Aust CA Unit, 1 Fd Sqn and MILO to determine the sp available to the bn for the cordon and search ops. Additionally it was decided that the hamlet of XOM MY XUAN to the immediate south of PHU MY would be the target, rather than PHU MY itself. Furthermore the CO asked 1 Div Int Unit to arrange sp from the Province Reconnaissance Unit (PRU) with the aim of their sealing off of the river approaches to both XOM MY XUAN and LANG PHUOC HOA.	
	29 Dec	1500	The CO briefed the 2IC and the Ops Offr on the requirements for the forthcoming ops. A Coy were nominated as the 1 ATF reaction coy. The CO stated their extraction would be co-ordinated with the fly-in to FSPB WATTLE of a coy of 4 RAR.	
	29 Dec	1630	Maj CHINN visited Maj PATTERSON and briefed him on the fly-out of A Coy.	
	29 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy (-) 257901, 1 Pl 252903, 3 Pl 253899, B Coy (-) 274919, 4 Pl 278922, 5 Pl 270921, C Coy 232899, D Coy (-) 275934, 10 Pl 273934, 11 Pl 280935, sect 10 Pl 276933.	
YS 241898	30 Dec	1013	3 Pl discovered an en camp containing 25 bunkers in a line from north to south. The bunkers measured 10' x 6' and were connected by a crawl trench. It had not been used within the last week although some fresh footprints were seen leading north. The camp was marked for demolition.	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2113 (Adapted from Form)
UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

MONTH AND YEAR DECEMBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

COAMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
YS 226889	30 Dec	1615	The CO visited A Coy and briefed Maj PATTERSON on A Coy's extraction and future coy ops whilst at NUI DAT.	
	30 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy 226889, B Coy 274919, C Coy 215896, D Coy (-) 275934, sect 10 Pl 276933, 11 Pl 280935.	
	31 Dec		There were no contacts or incidents within the 1 RAR AO for the first time since the beginning of Op GOODWOOD. All coys prepared for the extraction on 1 Jan 69 by moving to and securing PZs. A Coy secured a PZ at YS 226889 for their return to NUI DAT.	
226889	31 Dec	0915	A Coy commenced their fly-out and were completely clear by 1155 hrs. The lift out had been delayed when one Albatross became unserviceable and had to be put down on the A Coy PZ.	
	31 Dec		Ni locs: A Coy NUI DAT, B Coy (-) 275930, 5 Pl 274931, 6 Pl 273930, C Coy 215896, D Coy (-) 275934, 10 Pl 273934, 11 Pl 276933.	

ANNEX C/1

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Ops 2007

Copy No of 78 copies

1 RAR
AP AN PHU

OpO 19/68 Op GOODWOOD

012135 H Dec 68

Ref: A. 1 ATF OpO 72/68 (OP GOODWOOD) of 30 Nov 68.
B. Map VIETNAM series L7014 sheets 6430 I, II, III, and IV.

Time zone used throughout this order: HOTEL.

1. Situation:

a. En Forces. Anx A.

b. Friendly Forces

- (1) 4 RAR cont bn trg programme in 1 ATF Base.
- (2) 9 RAR cont bn trg and commences Op KING HIT on 10 Dec 68.
- (3) 2 SAS Sqn commences Op STELLAR BRIGHT on 9 Dec 68.
- (4) A Sqn 3 Cav Regt with allotted bn a-tk elms cont ROAD RUNNER ops along QL15.
- (5) RTAVF Bde commences Op GOODWOOD in AO BANGLANE on 3 Dec 68.
- (6) PCF unit from 13 Coastal Comd cont ops in river SONG THI VAI.
- (7) 4/12 Inf Bn, 199th (LIB) in DS 1 ATF from 030700H until rel.
- (8) Two tps, 3/11 ACR in DS 1 ATF from 030700H until rel.
- (9) 2nd ARVN AB Bde in DS 1 ATF from 030700H until rel.

c. Atts and Dets

- | | |
|--|--|
| (1) Under comd from 030630H
Dec until rel | Four ³ combat teams, one D3
dozer with crew, 1 Fd Sqn. |
| (2) Under op con from time of
arrival FSPB DYKE until rel | C Sqn 1 Armd Regt, less two
tps. |
| (3) In DS from 030630H | 102 Fd Bty, 12 Fd Regt. One
H13, 161 (Indep) Recce Flt |
| (4) On call | One pl 8 in SP guns at FSPB
CHESTNUT (YS2279). |

2. Mission. 1 RAR is to conduct RIF ops in AO WONDAI to achieve rapid destruction of 3/274 Bn or other VC elms in the AO, and en : instl /assets discovered.

3. Execution

a. Gen outline

- (1) Phase 1. Deployment by rd into AO WONDAI, under op con A Sqn 3 Cav Regt and secure FSPB DYKE. YS 2780
- (2) Phase 2. RIF ops in AO 1 and 2 from SW to NE, B and C Coys leading in each AO, A and D Coys follow up in each AO with tp tks each.
- (3) Phase 3. RIF ops in AO's 3 and 4, orders to be issued later.

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/(2)

b. A Coy(1) Grouping

Remaining under comd	FO's party, MFC.
Under comd from 030630H Dec	One combat engr team, 1 Fd Sqn
Under op con from arrival FSPB DYKE	One tp, C Sqn 1 Armd Regt.
Att from 021200H Dec	Press team (3-offr, SNCO, civ)

(2) Tasks(a) Phase 1

- i. Rear coy in deployment by rd to AO WONDAI.
- ii. Debus WEST edge of FSPB DYKE on SOUTH side FIRESTONE Trail vic 273804.
- iii. RV with tp C Sqn 1 Armd Regt EAST of FSPB DYKE on SOUTH side of FIRESTONE Trail vic 282808.
- iv. Adv to har area on NORTH side FIRESTONE Trail vic 298818.

(b) Phase 2

- i. Be prep to fol up C Coy on RIF AO 1 when ordered.
- ii. Destroy en assets/instl loc.

c. B Coy(1) Grouping

Remaining under comd	FO's party, MFC.
Under comd from 030630H Dec	One combat engr team, 1 Fd Sqn. Scout dog team (2 dogs)

(2) Tasks(a) Phase 1

- i. Fol Br. HQ Gp in deployment by rd to AO WONDAI (second rifle coy).
- ii. Debus WEST edge of FSPB DYKE on NORTH side of FIRESTONE Trail vic 272806.
- iii. Move through FSPB DYKE along NORTH side FIRESTONE Trail to vic track/Trail junc 286842.

(b) Phase 2

- i. Commence RIF AO 2.
- ii. Destroy en assets/instl loc.

d. C Coy(1) Grouping

Remaining under comd	FO's party, MFC.
Under comd from 030630H Dec	One combat engr team, 1 Fd Sqn.

/(3)

Under comd for mov to FSPB DYKE One sect Mor Pl (Mor APC)
 Att from 030630H Dec to approx OC 1 Fd Sqn.
 7 Dec.

(2) Tasks(a) Phase 1

i. Follow B Coy in deployment by rd to AO WONDAI (third rifle coy).

ii. Debus from APC on FIRESTONE Trail vic 305823, enter har NORTH side of Trail.

(b) Phase 2

i. Commence RIF AO1 when ordered.

ii. Destroy en assets/instl loc.

e. D Coy(1) Grouping

Remaining under comd FO's party, MFC.
 Under comd from 030630H Dec One combat engr team, 1 Fd Sqn
 Under op con from arrival FSPB One tp, C Sqn 1 Armd Regt.
 DYKE

(2) Tasks(a) Phase 1

i. Leading coy and under op con C Sqn 1 Armd Regt for deployment by rd to AO WONDAI.

ii. On arrival FSPB DYKE, responsible for security FSPB during deployment of Sqn HQ C Sqn 1 Armd Regt, 102 Fd Bty and Bn HQ Gp.

(b) Phase 2

i. Estb def posn at or in vic FSPB DYKE, loc to be determined by recce and co-ord HQ 1 RAR during occupation FSPB DYKE.

ii. Be prep to follow up B Coy in RIF AO2 when ordered.

iii. Destroy en assets/instl loc.

f. Sp Coy

(1) Grouping See pl grouping below.

(2) Tasks(a) Phase 1

i. Co-ord Bn HQ Gp move to AO WONDAI as second coy gp and following 102 Fd Bty.

ii. Co-ord layout FSPB DYKE with Sqn HQ C Sqn 1 Armd Regt and 102 Fd Bty recce parties, fol estb contact D Coy.

(b) Phase 2

i. Provide protection for Bn HQ at FSPB DYKE.

/(4)

(b) Phase 2

- i. As directed by RSO for def of FSPB DYKE.
- ii. Assist with local protection of Bn HQ.
- iii. Const Bn CP.
- iv. Carry one COBRA, two chain saws and two flame throwers.

j. Base Def. SOP. Admin Coy assumes con Bn CP at 021200H Dec and takes over responsibility standing ptl FORT COURAGE 431683 from ni 2/3 Dec inclusive.

k. C Sqn 1 Armd Regt

(1) Grouping

(a) Phase 1

- i. Under op con A Sqn 3 Cav Regt for deployment to AO WONDAI.

(b) Phase 2

- i. Under op con HQ 1 RAR from Sqn HQ
arrival FSPB DYKE
- ii. Under op con D Coy from One tp
arrival FSPB DYKE
- iii. Under op con A Coy from One tp
estb RV with A Coy wic 282808

(2) Tasks - Phase 2

- (a) Close sp for follow up coys (A Coy, D Coy).
- (b) Limited counter-penetration tasks for FSPB DYKE.
(Bn HQ Gp)

l. A Sqn 3 Cav Regt

- (1) Comd, co-ord and con deployment 1 RAR by rd into AC WONDAI on 3 Dec 68.
- (2) Con all tfc using Route QL 15 incl rd resup to FSPB DYKE.

m. Arty

- (1) 102 Fd Bty. In DS, deploying to FSPB DYKE with 1 RAR 3 Dec 68.
- (2) Det 131 Div Loc Bty. Provide one svy det FSPB DYKE with 102 Fd Bty on 3 Dec 68.
- (3) Pl 8 in Sp guns FSPB CHESTNUT. On call.

n. 1 Fd Sqn

(1) Grouping

- (a) Under comd each rifle coy, one combat team from 030630H Dec. Pers to report to coys by 021600H Dec. Also under comd one D8 dozer/crew (2). (Bn HQ Gp)

/(6)

(b) Att. . OC 1 Fd Sqn to C Coy, LO with two sigs to HQ 1 RAR from 030630H.

(2) Tasks. Const winch sites, LP, destroy en instl, detect en mines and buried eqpt.

o. Air

(1) 161 (Indep) Recce Flt

(a) One H13 in DS from 030630H until rel.

(b) Initial task to carry IO on VR during deployment into FSPB DYKE.

(2) 9 Sqn RAAF

(a) Resupply sorties to rifle coys from NUI DAT.

(b) DUSTOFF backup.

(3) US Army Air

(a) Normal DUSTOFF on request.

(b) LFT on request.

p. Co-ord Instr

(1) AO See marked maps, and Anx P.

(2) Bounds, Report lines. See marked maps on limited distr and Anx P.

(3) Timings

(a) Deployment is to commence from SP junc NUI DAT Bypass Rd and Base Access Rd at 030700H Dec.

(b) TCV/APC. report to coy locs by 030630H Dec.

(4) Movement

(a) Road Movement Instruction from 1ATF to be issued separately.

(b) Co-ord

i. Ops Offr attends co-ord conf A Sqn 3 Cav Regt 021400H

ii. 1 RAR Mov Co-ord Conf in Bn Conf Room 021600H. Coy comds, RSO, TO to attend.

(c) Recce Parties. Bn HQ Gp, and Arty move with D Coy.

(5) D Coy Loc - Ni 3/4 Dec. Subj recce/co-ord Ops Offr, OC D Coy, RSO on arrival FSPB DYKE.

(6) 1 ATF LOs. See Anx B.

/(7)

4. Administration and Logistics

a. General. A fwd TFMA will not be estb. Daily maint is from NUI DAT. Maint conference daily in DAQMG's office at 1400 hrs. It is anticipated resup to coys will be by air and to FSPB by rd.

b. Ammo.

(1) Normal first line to be carried.

(2) Res of one first line to be held readily avail to TIGER 5 under con OC Admin Coy.

(3) Mor ammo. 400 rds HE and 30 rds ILL to be moved to FSPB DYKE with rd convoy 3 Dec 68.

(4) Explosives. A minimum of 200 lbs packed in 20 lb lots is to be moved to FSPB DYKE with rd convoy 3 Dec 68.

c. Rats

(1) Each soldier is to carry four days combat and emergency rat.

(2) A res of four days rats for FSPB DYKE is to be moved in on rd convoy 3 Dec 68.

d. Water

(1) Every soldier is to depart NUI DAT with four full water bottles.

(2) Maximum use is to be made of local resources, and local water is to be filtered and sterilised.

(3) Water trailer full is to be moved to FSPB DYKE with rd convoy 3 Dec 68.

(4) A res of 100 jerry cans full is to be moved to FSPB DYKE with rd convoy 3 Dec 68.

e. Radio Batteries

(1) Four batteries per radio are to be carried.

(2) A res of 3 cases of radio batteries is to be moved to FSPB DYKE with rd convoy 3 Dec 68.

f. Def Stores

(1) The fol qty is to be del to FSPB DYKE on 3 Dec under arrangements made by Q Branch 1 ATF.

Concertina Coils	Qty 190
8' Pickets	Qty 900
Sandbags	Qty 28000

(2) Bids for additional def stores are to be channeled through AQ sect.

(3) CP Stores. CP stores are to be loaded by 2 Dec 68 and are to accompany rd convoy on 3 Dec 68.

g. Med

(1) RAP is to be loc with Bn HQ.

/(8)

(2) Malaria Precautions

- (a) Paludrine is to be taken twice daily and Dapsone is to be taken once per day in conjunction with morning Paludrine.
- (b) Shirts with sleeves rolled down are to be worn at all times.
- (c) Mosquito nets are to be used whenever possible and are to be erected by 1830 hrs and tucked in all around bedding.
- (d) Mosquito repellent is to be applied to exposed skin every three hours during the hours of darkness.

(3) Anti Miting

- (a) Anti miting is to be carried out under the supervision of an offr/NCO on 2 Dec 68 and is to be repeated every 7 days.
- (b) A tin of anti mite is to be placed in each sect kitbag.

h. Special Stores. Four marker balloons are to be held at FSPB DYKE under con of AQM.

i. Fire precautions

- (1) The main fire hazard is caused by smoke flares and fanned by helicopters. Extreme care is to be taken in the usage of smoke flares.
- (2) The fol firefighting stores are to be taken to FSPB DYKE.
 - (a) Knapsack sprays - 6
 - (b) Fire Beaters - 6
 - (c) Rakes - 2

5. Command and Signal

a. Bn HQ

- (1) CO's party moves to FSPB DYKE by UH-1 AM 3 Dec 68 fol securing by D Coy and opening HQ 1 RAR that loc.
- (2) Bn HQ less recce party moves as part Bn HQ Gp in road deployment to AO WONDAI.
- (3) Bn HQ recce party moves with D Coy in rd deployment.

b. Comd FSPB DYKE. RSO from arrival 3 Dec.

c. Radio

- (1) SOI
- (2) For APC/TCV Move, normal nets open and checked. While mounted, net provided by A Sqn 3 Cav Regt to be used.
- (3) On dismounting, at end of move or if halted during move, normal comd net operates.

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d. Line. Sig Pl, incl links to Sqn HQ C Sqn 1 Armd Regt and 102 Fd Bty, in FSPB DYKE.

e. POC issued separately.

Ack Instrs: Aok.

(P.H. BENNETT)
Lt Col
CO

Authentication



(D.A. CHINN)
Maj
Ops Offr

Anxs: A. En Forces
B. 1 ATF LO's
P. AO Boundaries, Bounds, Report Lines.

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<u>Distribution</u>	Copy No
A Coy	1
B Coy	2
C Coy	3
D Coy	4
Sp Coy	5
Admin Coy	6
Mor Pl	7
Sig Pl	8
A-Tk Pl	9
Aslt Pnr Pl	10
C Sqn 1 Armd Regt	11 - 13
A Sqn 3 Cav Regt	14
12 Fd Regt	15 - 16
1 Fd Sqn	17 - 18
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	19
No 9 Sqn RAAF	20
4 RAR	21
5 RAR	22
6 RAR	23
9 RAR	24
HQ 1 ATF	25 - 49
CO	50
2IC	51
Ops Offr	52
BC	53
Adjt	54
IO	55
QM	56
A Adjt	57
TO	58
RMO	59
CP	60
RSM	61
WO Caterer	62
RP Sgt	63
PR	64
1 RAR (Aust Comp)	65
Comds Diary	66 - 69
Spare	70 - 77
File	78

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ANNEX A TO
1 RAR OpO 19/68
DATED 21 DEC 68

Topo

1. The area for Op GOODWOOD, AO WONDAL, has been op in by 1 RAR during Ops PLATYPUS, HAWKESBURY and WINDSOR. The major changes that will have occurred are the dryer going and the effects of intensive air activity, including several B52 strikes, within the area.
2. The area is bounded by the FIRESTONE trail and the ENGINEER trail, both of which are incorrectly marked on most maps. The correct posn is included in Appendix 1 to Annex A, as are all tracks located by 1 RAR during the previous Ops.

ENEMY FORCES

General

3. The importance of the HAT DICH area to the en is well known, it is strategically placed to maintain pressure on the BEARCAT and LONG KHANH areas and to launch interdiction ops against Route 15. Additionally the area has held large caches of rice in the THAI THIEN area which has a ~~natural~~ ^{natural} outlet towards the RUNG SAT Special Zone.
4. Recent ops in the area have produced captured docu which indicate the area to the East of SAIGON is now designated T7 and its HQ is probably loc within the HAT DICH. HQ T7 directly controls 274 VC Regt, 74 NVA Arty Regt (ex 84A), D76 Engr Bn, Thu Duc Regt and D6 Sapper Recce Bn besides other units normally loc elsewhere.

En Forces Locations

5. It is thought that the following en units may be found in or near AO WONDAL:

a. 3 Bn 274 VC Regt.

- (1) This unit is believed to be located in the general area YS3183. The Bn has a present strength of about 250 - 300 men and is well-trained and well equipped. The Regt, and in particular 3 Bn, has gained considerable experience in fighting armour. It is known that large numbers of NVA replacements are serving in 274 Regt - but the total NVA with 3 Bn is not certain.
- (2) Base camps are sited in depth with bunkers mutually supporting. Companies are usually located 2 - 2.5 kms apart. Troops seldom remain in the same place for more than three days.
- (3) Communication is accomplished by runner and by radio (down to companies).
- (4) When not moving, the units of 274 Regt eat their first meal between 0500 and 0700 hours.
- (5) Basic rice supply points for 3 Bn are the villages of THAI THIEN (YS227796), THAM THIEN (YS212816) and BINH SON (YS2193).
- (6) 3 Bn has been kept on the move recently and has had severe problems with malaria and food shortages.
- (7) There have been few reports of contacts in recent weeks but agent reports continue to indicate the presence of up to battalion size forces in the overall area.
- (8) The enemy possesses an intimate knowledge of the terrain and has permanent base areas complete with trench systems, log and earth bunkers and complex underground tunnels.

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- (9) Suspected enemy base areas, centre of mass YS305835, YS315835, YS325845 were hit by three B-52 strikes and 175mm artillery fire during night 28/29 Nov 68. Another B-52 strike was made on 30 Nov, centre of mass YS265815 with no significant results.
- b. 3 Bn 74 NVA Arty Regt. This unit is understrength but retains considerable potential firepower with its equipment (107mm and 122mm rockets). Its current exact location is unknown but believed to be SE of the BINH SON Rubber estate.
- c. 67 Engr Bn. This unit is composed of a HQ element and two companies-C22 and C24 (each of about 50 - 70 men). The mission of this unit is route interdiction and there is some indication that C24 Coy may have missions against Route 15, operating from an area near THAI THIEN YS2279.
- d. The Thu Duc Regt and the D6 Sapper Recon Bn may be contacted but may be closer towards the BINH SON Rubber estate.
- e. HQ T-7 is not located but may be also in the area SE of the BINH SON Rubber estate.
- f. The usual rear service and guerilla troops are believed to be operating in the area, mainly assisting in the procurement, transportation and storage of rice.

Enemy Camps, Installations and Minefields

6. Known enemy base camps, mined areas, rice caches and contacts reported to 1 ATF from 22 Oct to 30 Nov 68 are marked on the 1:50,000 overprint map issued separately, and at Appendix 2.
7. The enemy has proven his ability to shift his forces rapidly to avoid contact and to disengage from contacts. The enemy has sufficient local knowledge of the area to enable him to move quickly to well prepared, camouflaged defensive positions and by aggressive use of small delaying forces, allow successful exfiltration of his larger units and sub-units.
8. There are indications that the enemy intends to mount operations in the near future probably against LONG THANH, FSB GREY, BINH SON or possibly BEARCAT. Extensive enemy movement has been reported from various sources but nothing firm can yet be obtained.
9. Met data is shown at Appendix 3.

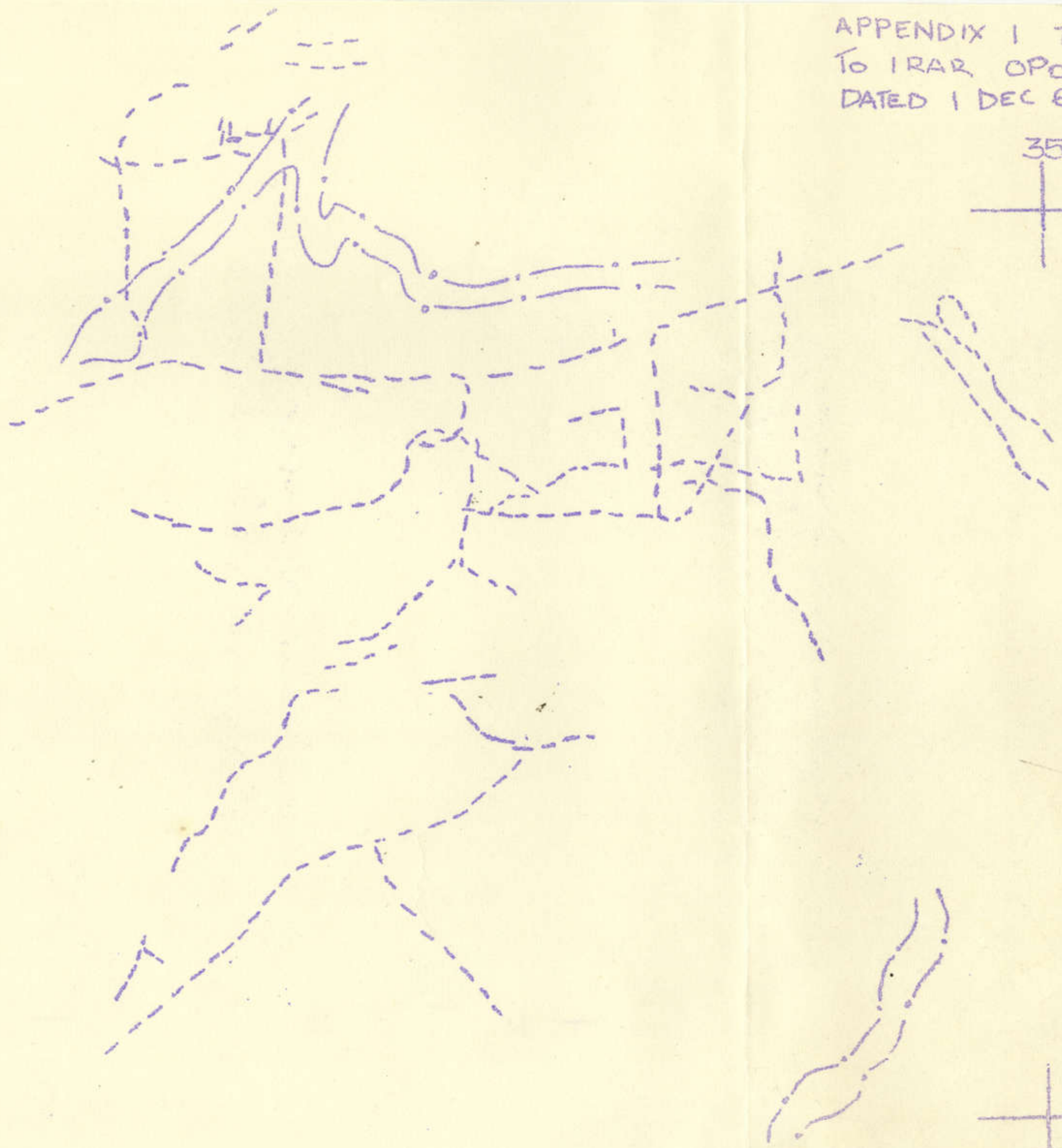
Appendix

- Appendix 1. Track plan.
- Appendix 2. En incidents.
- Appendix 3. Met data.

APPENDIX I TO ANNEX A
TO IRAR OPO 19/68
DATED 1 DEC 68

87 ——— 24

35
——— 88



LEGEND
——— TRAILS
- - - TRACKS

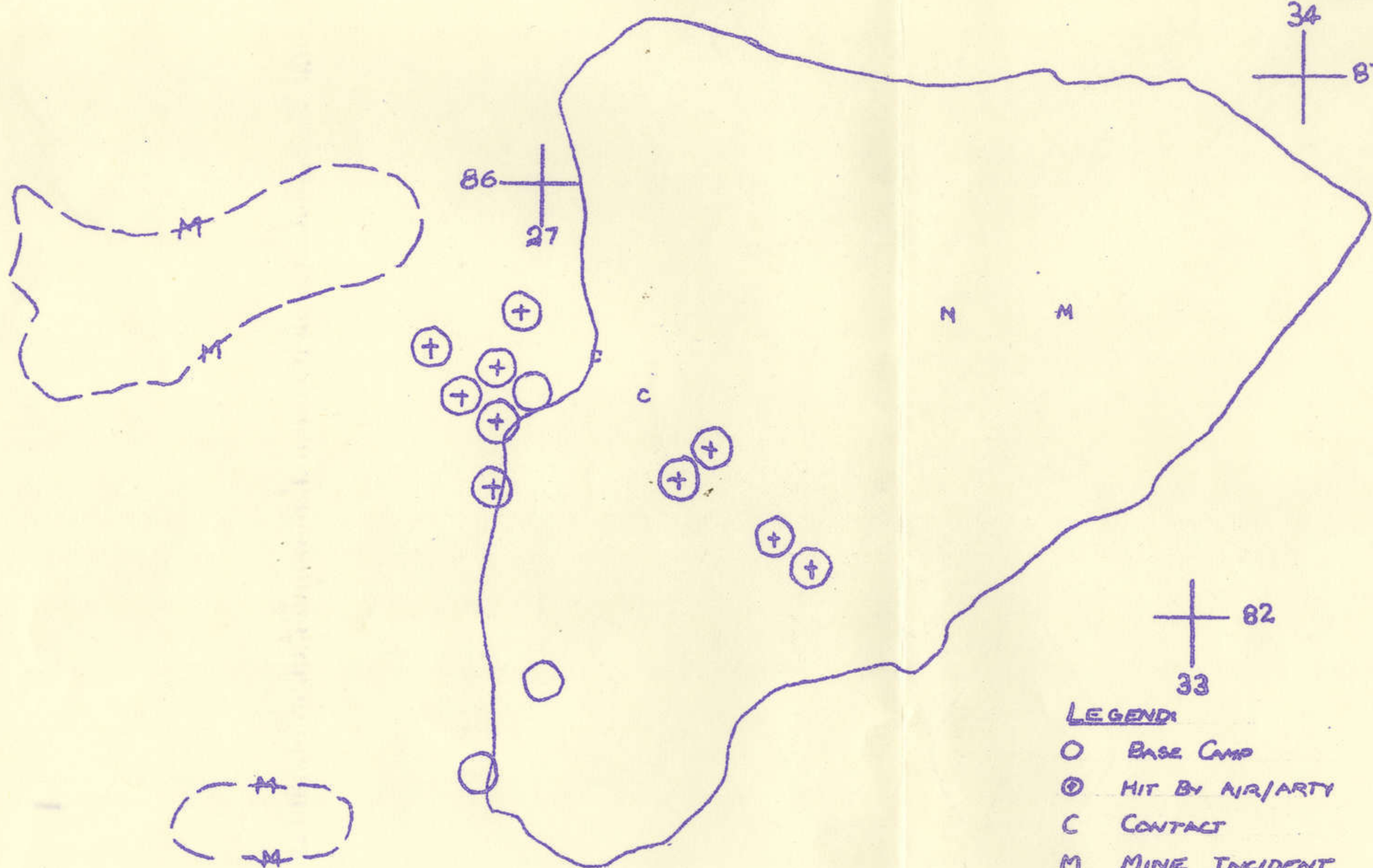
81 ——— 25

35 ——— 80

REF MAPS 1:50,000
6430 III, IV.

OP GOODWOOD
AO WONDAI

APPENDIX 2 TO
ANNEX A TO
1 RAR OP 0 19/68
DATED DEC 68



- LEGEND:
- O BASE CAMP
 - ⊕ HIT BY AIR/ARTY
 - C CONTACT
 - M MINE INCIDENT
 - ⊕ M SUSPECTED M/FIELD

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APPENDIX 3 TO
ANNEX A TO
1 RAR OpO 19/68
DATED 17 DEC 68

MEF DATA

1. Climate and Weather

a. Winds. November to March the winds flow from the NORTH to NORTHEAST. During this period the winds are generally light and variable.

b. Visibility. Visibility is generally good (7 to 12 miles) throughout the year, but occasionally can be expected to be less than three miles in early morning fog and sunrise in the valleys and usually dissipates by 0900 hours, but can persist longer. Best overall visibility occurs during the late morning and afternoon.

c. Rain. Rain normally occurs as afternoon and evening rainshowers and thunderstorms, usually between 1300 hours and 2200 hours.

d. Effect on Friendly Capabilities. The afternoon "Bakeoff" caused by daily highest temperature and lowest humidity will cause severe dust storms around landing helicopters. This factor could cause serious hazards to Heliborne Operations.

<u>Date</u>	<u>1st Light</u>	<u>Sunrise</u>	<u>Sunset</u>	<u>Last Light</u>	<u>Moonrise</u>	<u>Moonset</u>	<u>Ill</u>
01	0606	0655	1828	1918	1550	0347	86
02	0606	0656	1828	1918	1628	0433	92
03	0607	0657	1828	1918	1710	0522	96
04	0607	0657	1829	1919	1756	0611	99
05	0608	0658	1830	1920	1842	0703	100
06	0608	0658	1830	1920	1933	0755	99
07	0609	0659	1830	1920	2025	0847	96
08	0609	0659	1831	1921	2118	0937	92
09	0610	0700	1831	1921	2209	1024	86
10	0611	0701	1831	1921	2259	1107	79
11	0611	0701	1832	1922	2349	1147	70
12	0612	0702	1832	1922	-	1227	61
13	0612	0702	1833	1923	0037	1306	50
14	0613	0703	1833	1923	0125	1344	40
15	0613	0703	1833	1923	0216	1426	29
16	0614	0704	1834	1924	0310	1511	20
17	0614	0704	1834	1924	0409	1603	11
18	0614	0704	1835	1925	0512	1700	5
19	0615	0705	1835	1925	0620	1804	1
20	0615	0705	1836	1926	0729	1912	0
21	0616	0706	1836	1926	0835	2021	3
22	0616	0706	1837	1927	0935	2126	8
23	0617	0707	1837	1927	1028	2224	15
24	0617	0707	1838	1928	1115	2319	24

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ANNEX B TO
1 RAR OpO 19/68
DATED 1 DEC 68

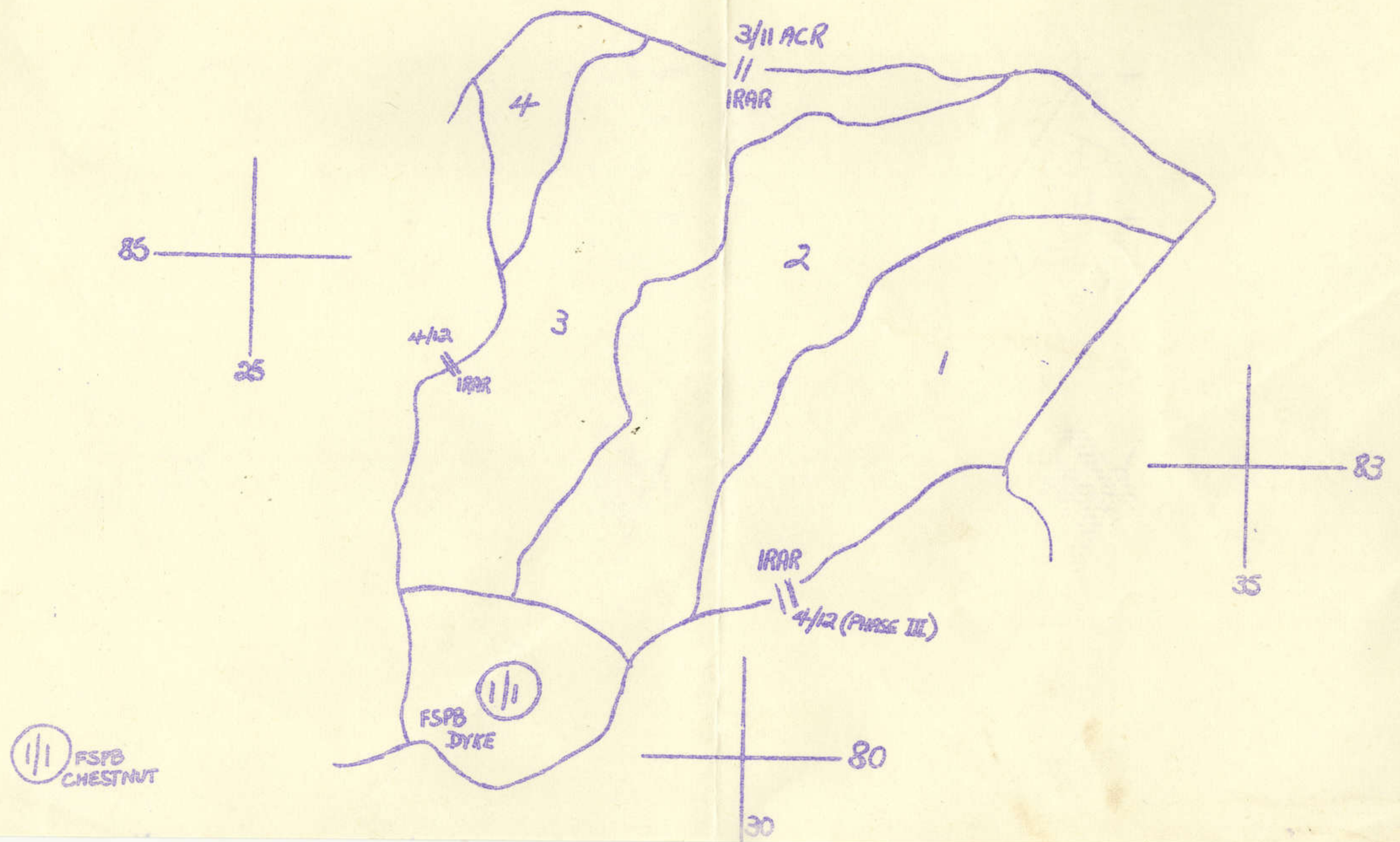
ALLOTMENT OF 1 ATF LOs

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type of LO</u>	<u>Callsign</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sgt ALLEN	Ops	RUSTY THUNDER 81	HQ 18 ARVN Div XUAN LOC
2Lt CROSSMAN	Ops	RUSTY THUNDER 72	4/12 Inf (FSPB CHESTNUT YS2380)
Capt RICHARDS	Ops	RUSTY THUNDER 28	3/11 ACR (FSPB DAMPIER YS3686)
Lt SHEEDY	Ops	RUSTY THUNDER 11	1st Bde RTAVF (FSPB GGREY YS2093)
Lt BENIER	Ops	RUSTY THUNDER 34	2nd ARVN (AB) Bde
2Lt DAVIES	Arty	ENTERPRISE 81	1st Bd RTAVF (FSPB GREY YS2093)
Capt ARMOUR	Arty	ENTERPRISE 82	2nd ARVN (AB) Bde

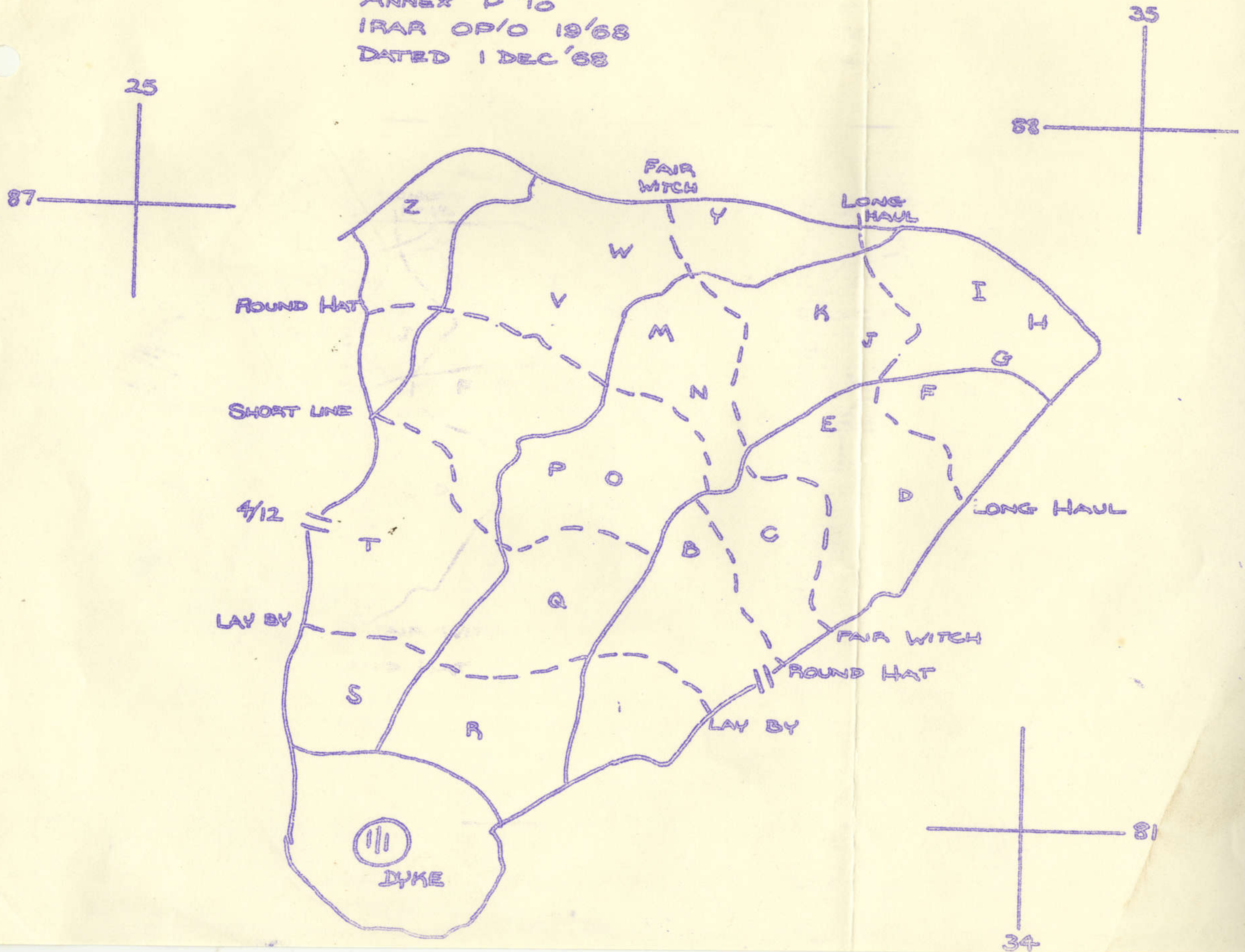
REF MAPS: 1:50,000
6430 III, IV

OP GOODWOOD AO WONDAI

ANNEX P
TO IRAR OP O 19/68
DATED DEC 68



APPENDIX 1 TO
ANNEX D TO
IRAR OP/O 19/68
DATED 1 DEC '68



ANNEX 4/2

MESSAGE FORM

PRECEDENCE-ACTION
IMMEDIATE

PRECEDENCE- INFO
DEFERRED

DATE TIME GROUP
31 Z

MESSAGE INSTRUCTIONS

FROM 1 RAR

TO A COY, B COY, C COY, D COY, SP COY, ADMIN COY,
MOR PL, A-TK PL, ASLT PNR PL

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
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C SQN 1 ARMD REGT, A SQN 3 CAV REGT, 12 FD REGT,
102 FD BTY, 1 FD SQN, 161 INDEP RECCE FLT,
DET 1 DIV INT UNIT, 1 AUST CA UNIT, HQ 5 COY RAASC,
1 ATF DET AFV PRO UNIT, DET PRU, HQ 1 ATF (MAIN)
HQ 1 ATF (REAR)

ORIGINATOR'S NUMBER
G2212

CO, 2IC, OPS OFFR, BC, ADJT, IO, RSO, QM, RMO, A ADJT, TO, AQM, RSM,
CP(FWD), CP(REAR).

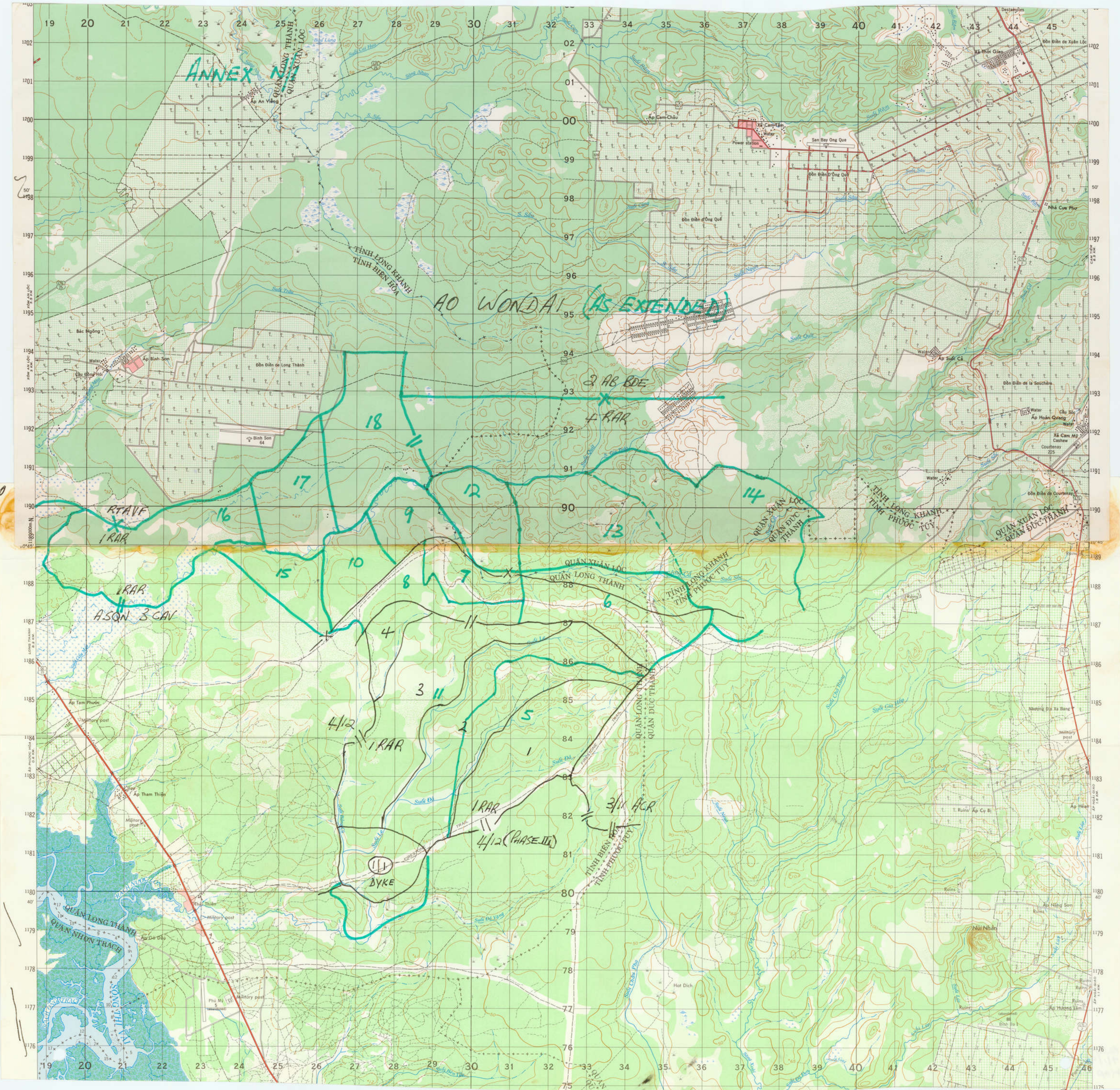
WARNING ORDER (.) ONE (.) 1 RAR IS TO CONDUCT CORDON/SEARCH VILLAGES ROUTE 15
PERIOD 2 - 5 JAN 69 (.) TWO (.) NO MOVE EXCL RECCE PARTIES PRIOR TO 021800H JAN (.)
THREE (.) FINAL CO-ORD HQ 1 ATF DETS HQ 1 ATF (MAIN) CONF TENT JULIA 011500H (.)
ORDERS SAME LOC 011700H CMM A COY TO SEND REP (.) FOUR (.) DEPLOYMENT 1 RAR TO
AREA FSPB CHESTNUT ON 1 JAN 69 CMM ON ORDERS ALREADY ISSUED (.) FIVE (.) ADMIN
REQUIREMENTS ALREADY CO-ORD WITH BN 2IC

CHINN

OPS OFFR

EMP

W. Chinn
MAJ



ANNEX MIA

AO WONDAL (AS EXTENDED)

RTAVF
1RAR

1RAR
ASON 3 CAV

2 AB BDE
4 RAR

1RAR
4/12 (PHASE III)

3/4 ACB

DYKE