

**Series: AWM95**  
**Australian Army commanders' diaries**  
**[Vietnam]**

**Detachment, 1 Topographical**  
**Survey Troop**

**Item number: 5/1/15**

**Item: Detachment 1 Topographical**  
**Survey Troop**

**Operational Report no. 14**

**[photocopy]**

**[1-30 Jun 1967]**



Jul 67

See Distribution List

OPERATIONAL REPORT No 14

Covering period 1 Jun - 30 Jun 67.

"I assure you I had rather excel others in the knowledge of what is excellent, than in the extent of my power and determination."

Alexander the Great 356-323 BC

PART I-G MATTERS

1. Location. A Sec 1 Topo Svy Tp remains in present location at YS43456671.
2. Enemy Contact. Nil.
3. Tasks. All elements, except for screen printing were fully employed during the reporting period. A Summary of major tasks undertaken is given in Annex A.
4. Survey Control. During the reporting period a third order station AAS016 (PIG) was established at:  

E 752	159.72
N 1171	532.95

by tellurometer distance and bearing from AAS001 (NUI DAT).
5. Polaris observations on line AAS001 (NUI DAT) - VUNG TAU Lighthouse gave a 5.0" variation to the computed azimuth carried through from original base. Due to the relative agreement of the two results, and the work required to amend existing results it has been decided to accept the present provisional co-ordinates of all points until such time as the 1 Topo Svy Tp work can be connected to National network via NUI THI VAI.
6. AAS001 has been renovated so that observations can now be made from over the ground mark instead of at the eccentric. AAS001 has an RO for night work at VUNG TAU Lighthouse and a daylight RO at BA RIA Radio mast connected to the main chain stations.
7. Survey control for NUI DAT Special 1:5000 was completed during the reporting period and extra control required for the master planning map at scale 1:2500 is at present proceeding.
8. Fieldwork for XUYEN MOC 1:10,000 was completed during the reporting period and this sheet is at present being compiled.
9. Compilation and field checking of the following sheets was completed during June 1967.

DUC THANH	1:5000	Special
BINH BA	1:5000	Special
10. 1:25000 Mapping. Annotation and repromat for all sheets, except 6430-11-NE, has now been despatched to AHQ Survey Regt. This unit was unable to locate photography or compilation for outstanding sheet and photography has been ordered. At time of reporting this had not been received.
11. Second edition sheets Nos 6430-11-NE and 6429-1v-NE were placed in stock during June.



### Cartographic Section

12. This continues to be the hardest worked section of the unit but with the arrival of two draughtsmen during the reporting period the work load has been lightened on individual members.

13. Two members of 131 Div Log Bty, with draughting experience, have been working for this unit during June and have been of great assistance.

### Screen Printing

14. A record 6080 impressions were made during the reporting period. As this was done in 20 days by one man it is an accurate indication of the skill and enthusiasm shown by Cpl SLATER.

15. Difficulties with drying of ink in screens (See Report No 13 Part 5) was alleviated by the loan of a Trucks, Van, Expansible, M292. This vehicle is air conditioned and the screen printer has been worked to capacity since being transferred into it. Unfortunately this truck will be removed from this locality on 5 Jul 67, for Op PADDINGTON and further experimentation with slow drying reducer, so far abortive, will have to be carried out.

### Air Photography

16. The following photography was received during the reporting period:

1:6000 DAT DO - PHUOC HAI FENCE  
1:10000 XUYEN MOC VILLAGE  
1:3000 ARVN POSTS ON ROAD DAT DO - XUYEN MOC  
1:2500 NUI DAT TO HWY 23  
1:5000 ARVN POSTS ON ROAD DAT DO - XUYEN MOC  
1:5000 VUNG TAU AREA (From 66 Engr (Topo) Coy)

17. Repeated enquires to M and I Branch USAECV(P) have been unable to get a firm date for delivery of 'WANDA' photography.

### Visits

18. OC and 2ic visited SAIGON - BINH HOA area during period 15-16 Jun. The following establishments were visited.

- a. 460 Photo (Recce) Wing USAF. Discussions with staff on survey requirements for air photography should ensure correct overlaps and format in future requests.
- b. J241 MACV. OC met Lt Col BLANK and Col HALPIN.
- c. 66 Engr Coy (Topo). OC met CO and members of unit staff and was briefed on roles and capabilities of unit.
- d. 547 Engr Pl (Map Depot) OC met members of staff and inspected unit.
- e. M and I, USAECV(P). OC met members of staff and was briefed on all aspects of M and I. Unfortunately Col HRITZKO, Asst C of S, was on leave during visit.
- f. 1 Engr Coy (Topo) ARVN. OC met Capt NGOC, OC of this unit.

### VISITORS

19. The following personnel visited the unit on 29 Jun 67.

Col	HALPIN	J24, MACV
Lt Col	BLANK	" "
Col	HRITZKO	A C/S, M and I, USAECV(P)

20. Preliminary discussion has been taking place with Maj NUGENT, FORES 3 AFV on the possibility of using the 'Airborne Survey Control System', as tested at School of Mil Svy during period 27 Apr - 10 May 67, as a means of gaining mapping control in theatre. The subject was raised by Maj NUGENT but to date no discussion has been opened with G (Ops) or 161 Recce Flt.



PART II - A MATTERS

Personnel

21. 37696 Cpl D.C. DUQUEMIN returned to Australia on the completion of his tour on 11 Jun 67.

The following members arrived at NUI DAT during the reporting period.

57058	Capt	A.W. LAING	on 10 Jun 67
2783237	Spr	G.H. MITCHELL	on 21 Jun 67.
2783827	Cpl	E.W. SNELSEN	" "
37547	Cpl	B. THOMAS	" "

MEDICAL

22. Health is generally good in the unit. With the onset of the wet season there has been a slight outbreak of prickly heat but this has been minor. Spr WELLINS was hospitalised at 8 Fd Amb VUNG TAU for period 29 - 30 Jun.

LEAVE

23. The following members are rostered to take R and R at centres indicated.

235238	Lt	D.K.R. McCLOY	SINGAPORE commencing 21 Jul 67
213569	Ssgt	P. ROSSITER	HONG KONG commencing 11 Jul 67
16852	Pte	R.R. COLE	TAIPAI commencing 23 Jul 67

RELIEF of MEMBERS

24. Due to residual service of NS members our FORECAST REPLACEMENT DEMAND of Jun 67 should be amended as below. Information on members listed was not available at time of compilation of this demand.

Serial	Appointment	Filling Appointment	Date RTA
11	Photographer (Cartographic)	2783827 Cpl W.E. SNELSON	Mar 68
22	Draughtsman (Topographical)	2783237 Spr G.H. MITCHELL	Dec 67

25. The following appointments have yet to be filled at time of reporting

Sgt Surveyor Topographical	(Sgt H.H. KRAMER)
Spr Helioworker	(Spr L.C. ROTHERHAM)

MORALE

26. Morale is at an acceptably high standard.



PART III - Q MATTERS

Stores and Equipment

27. Three of four tellurometers at present held by the unit are functional. Unit awaits release of one further system as stated in AHQ signal.

28. The weapon inspection carried out during May was reported on by RAEME during June 67. The inspection was only fair but the replacement of OMCs by the SMG F1 during July should ensure better reports in future.

29. All members have now test-fired and zeroed personal weapons.

Resupply

30. Resupply of expense stores continues to be the main problem of this unit. Members are continually having to make do and improvise with old, unsuitable or in lieu items. Following is a short list of items which interrupted production of the unit due to outstanding indents not being filled:

8010-66-010-0113	Mineral Turpentine
6750-66-016-4599	Paper Dyeline
6750-66-025-8842	Film Photographic process presensitized.
6750-97-121-0017	Film Draughting Cronaflex UC-7

31. It is hoped that resupply of these and many other items will be effected by the unloading of the JEPARIT at present in port and the actioning of all outstanding indents, in the near future.

.....  
(A.W. LAING)

Capt

OC A Sec I Topo Svy Tp

- Annexes A. Summary of Major Tasks
- B. Summary of Silkscreen Printing
- C. Map Distribution Summary.

Appendix A. NUI DAT (Special) 1;5000 Sheets 1 and 2

DISTRIBUTION

HQ 1 ATF	1
Directorate of Mil Svy	4
B Sec I Topo Svy Tp	2
DAD Svy E Comd	1
66 Engr Coy (Topo)	1
Diary	1
File	1



## SUMMARY OF MAJOR TASKS

Annex A to Operational Report No 14

TASK	Date Commenced	Fieldwork	Enlargement	Photo Inspection	Photo Plotting	Compilation to Worksheet	Final Drawing	Colour Separation	Printing	Completed	Date completed or date planned	REMARKS
1:25000 Revision for Reprinting and overprinting 6430-11-NE	Apr 67										Jul 67	
Perspec TAOR overprint							100			100	Jun 67	
NUI DAT special 1:5000	May 67	100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	Jun 67	
1 ATF Cantonment Survey 1:2500	Mar 67	80		100	80	80				80	Jul 67	Extra detail plotted on : of 1:5000 NUI DAT special: dyelined and used as a ma ning defence map
1 ALSG Cantonment Survey		25				25					Aug 67	At present on low priorit
Transcription of VC names on 1:50000	11 May 67						100		100	100	Jun 67	
DUC THANH Special 1:5000	22 May 67	100	100	100	100	100	100	85		75	Jul 67	
BINH BA Special 1:5000	23 May 67	100	100	100	100	100	100	90		75	Jul 67	
AT DO FENCE 1:25000	23 May 67	100	100	100	100	100	100		100	100	Jun 67	
XUYEN MOC 1:10,000	10 Jun 67	100	80	80	80	80	25				Jul 67	3 Colour map
XUYEN MOC ENLARGEMENT		100	100	100	100	100	100			100	Jun 67	Done as a dyeline
<u>AFTER ACTION REPORTS</u>												
OP PORTSEA	29 Jun 67						75			70	Jul 67	
OP CALOUNDRA	12 Jun 67						100			80	Jul 67	



## SUMMARY OF SILK SCREEN PRINTING JUNE 1967

Annex B to Operational F

JOB NO	NAME	NO OF COLOURS	NO OF COPIES	NO OF PULLS
AFV /F7-12/1140	TRACK AND BUILDING INFORMATION OVERPRINT 6430-II-SW	1	300	300
AFV/F7-12/1143	RF POSTS AND FENCE OVERPRINT 6429-I-NW	1	160	160
AFV/F7-12/1139	PATROL AREAS OVERPRINT 6430-III-SW	1	160	160
" 1132	" " 6430-III-SW	1	160	160
	HORSESHOE HILL OVERPRINT (2 SHEETS)	1	100	200
" 1142	TRACK AND BUILDING OVERPRINT 6430-III-SW	1	300	300
" 1145	VC NAMES OVERPRINT 6430-III	1	100	100
" 1147	" 6430-II	1	100	100
" 1144	" 6429-IV	1	100	100
" 1146	" 6429-I	1	100	100
" 1148	NUI DAT SPECIAL 1:5000 Sheet 2	4	500	2000
" 1149	" Sheet 1	4	500	2000
	TELEPHONE DIRECTORY COVERS	2	200	400
TOTALS 10/30 Jun ACCUMULATIVE			2780 19371	6080 28281



Annex C to Operational Report No14

MAP DISTRIBUTION SUMMARY

UNIT	L7014 1:50,000	L8015 1:25000	L8020 PICTO	JOG 'A'	JOG 'G'	MISC
2 RAR	40	151	20		16	3
Div Int	121	28	28			
Arty Tac	10			2		
SAS	166		140			
108 Bat	98	30	30			
USAFLO	42		10			
1 Fd Sqn	46	60				
Sector	10			6		
ARU		3				
GSO 2 Int	9	36				
7 RAR		52	50			2
Unit	2	1	1	2		1
161 Recce Flt	14		6	16		
TACP	3		30			
104 Sig Sqn	3		4	4		
Bat Int	101		35			
131 Div Loc	10					1
HQ Coy	6	12	2			
AATTV	15	9				
110 Sig Sqn	4					
CAU	14					
4 Fd Regt	37					
547 Sig Sqn	9					
161 Bat	12					
TOTALS	772	382	356	30	16	7