

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

Detachment, 1 Topographical  
Survey Troop

**Item number: 5/1/19**

**Item: Detachment 1 Topographical  
Survey Troop**

Operational Report no. 18

[photocopy]

[1-31 Oct 1967]

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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES  
VIETNAM

A Sect I Topo Svy Tp  
Nui Dat

3/ Oct 67

See Distribution List.

OPERATION REPORT No 18

Covering period 1 Oct - 31 Oct 67.

"Blessed is the man who expects nothing  
for he shall never be disappointed."

ALEXANDER POPE 1688-1744.

GENERAL

PART I - G MATTERS

1. Location. A Sect I Topo Svy Tp remains in location YS4345  
667I.

2. Enemy Contact. Nil.

SURVEY SECTION

3. Taking advantage of O-3 KENMORE theatre grid was extended into the East of PHUOC TUY Province. The following third order stations were established.

AAS023            E 773 070.9m  
                  N 1163 326.7m  
                  Ht 100.43m

AAS024            E 767 592.6m  
                  N 1158 781.4m  
                  Ht 58.00m

AAS024 was established direct from AAS017 and also through the chain AAS017 - AAS014 - AAS023 - AAS024. As an eccentric was used at AAS014 computation was done in the reverse sequence to give a closing error at AAS014 of E 1.60m, N 0.40m, Ht 0.69m over a total distance of 36725.15m. The misclose was distributed by the Bowditch Rule. At present line AAS017 - AAS014 is a computed line only. It is anticipated that this line will be observed when new tellurometers become available.

4. Further levelling and engineering surveying was carried out in AP SOU NGHE during reporting period. This task is almost completed and a final contour plan should be available during Nov 67.

5. Some reconnaissance was done during Oct to try and identify control and pass points coordinated on the 'WANDA' photography. Due to lack of tellurometers no connections have been made to AAS points so relative accuracy of these points has yet to be determined.

6. Recovery of a number of stations in the BINH GIA (YS4977) area was effected during Oct. Conditions were as follows.

AAS009        -    Not found. Condition not known.  
AAS012        -    Ground Mark slightly damaged but satisfactory.  
                  Recovery Marks not found.  
AAS008        -    Ground Mark in good condition. Recovery  
                  Marks not found.  
AAS010        -    Ground Mark destroyed. One Recovery Mark  
                  found and in useable condition.

A more detailed examination will be made of these stations when the undergrowth surrounding them has died and is burnt.

7. It is anticipated that further stations will be positioned in the NE area of PHUOC TUY during Op SANTA FE.

8. L7014 Series Second Edition. Annotations and photo inspection has begun to ensure that current topographic information is included on the second edition series. This is the subject of separate correspondence with D Mil Svy.

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9. Records. Revision and organisation of records is continuing.

10. Map Compilation. As suitable mapping photography was not available no compilation was possible during reporting period. Photography of areas delineated in Report I7 paras 15 a. and b. ordered on 27 Sep 67 was finally delivered on 30 Sep 67 and a start will be made on LONG PHUOC HAI during early November. It has been decided to use the slotted template method for compilation of this map area to compare speed and accuracy of compilation with normal photo point-traverse method which has been used in the past. Map will be compiled at photo scale (approx 1:5000). Printing scale will also be 1:5000. All equipment required for this project has been loaned by 66 Engr Coy (Topo).

CARTOGRAPHIC SECTION

II. Section has been employed in a variety of tasks including.

- a. Preparation of overlays for Operation Orders.
- b. Preparation of overlays for After Action Reports.
- c. Compilation of single colour maps.
- d. Preparation of Charts and diagrams.
- e. Preparation of Grids for future mapping.
- f. Miscellaneous draughting including preparation of menu, map marking, positive of POW tags, repaint unit sign, numerous dyeline traces and enlargements.

SCREEN PRINTING SECTION

12. Air conditioner in new printing building was finally made operable on 31 Oct 67. It is anticipated that XUYEN MOC 1:10000 and SONG RAI POSTS 1:10000 will be printed during early November.

13. The dark room in the new building was finished during October and with the installation of the Hoh and Hahne camera this section is now fully operable.

AIR PHOTOGRAPHY

14. The following air photography was received during reporting period.

Mission	Area	Scale
0755	DAT DO AREA	1:5000
10042	Route 2	1:5000

15. The standard of air photography being received by this unit is so low that 80% of all missions are unuseable. Flight lines are twisted so much that side lap is seldom 30% and huge gaps are often left between runs. Due to insufficient or improper washing prints are becoming unreadable after 10 days necessitating reordering of areas successfully flown.

CIVIC ACTION

16. A total of 114 man hours was spent in building and improving dwellings in AP SOUI NGHE during October.

FUTURE OPERATIONS

17. Mapping.

a. AP SOUI NGHE. Due to increase in size of the village the area referred to in Report I7 para 15a.(3) has been cancelled and the following scale and boundary coordinates accepted.

- (i) Scale 1:10000.
- (ii) Coordinates (Easting 400 - 460)  
(Northing 685 - 735)

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b. HOA LONG. The original edition of this map is now out of date and a second edition is planned with following detail:-

(i) Scale 1:5000.

(ii) Coordinates (Easting 405 - 435)  
(Northing 628 - 655)

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PERSONNEL

PART 2 - A MATTERS

18. The following member arrived in theatre during reporting period.

1200694 Spr R.A. Lawson II Oct 67.

19. The following members returned to Australia during reported period.

38604 Spr G.J. Baker 24 Oct 67.

LEAVE

20. The following members took R and R during October.

2784779	Spr	R.A. Hucker	HONG KONG	17 - 21	Oct 67.
2783237	Spr	G.H. Mitchell	"	" " "	" "
38210	Spr	G.J. Williams	AUSTRALIA	23 - 28	Oct 67.

ATTACHMENTS AND DETACHMENTS

21. The following members were detached to 66 Engr Coy (Topo) LONG BINH during October.

38604	Spr	G.J. Baker	2 - 10	Oct 67.
44024	Spr	S. Wojtowicz	18 - 23	Oct 67.
214094	Sgt	H.H. Kramer	24 - 30	Oct 67.

22. The following members were detached to 103 Fd Bty RAA for technical liaison during October.

14992	Cpl	W.G. Plint	27 Oct to continuous.
120694	Spr	R.A. Lawson	" " " "

MEDICAL AND DENTAL

23. Two members were hospitalised during October 1967.

15695	Cpl	M.J. Harding	14 - 15	Oct 67
215086	Cpl	T. Starr	18 - 24	Oct 67
"	"	"	31 Oct to continuous.	

24. All members had International Health Certificates reviewed during reporting period. All inoculations are now current.

MORALE

25. Morale remains at a satisfactory level.

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PART 3 - Q MATTERS

ACCOMODATION


26. Survey Section moved into their own working area on the completion of the third tropical hut (see Report I7 para 23). This has considerably relieved the congestion in the draughting hut and has made work by both sub units easier and more efficient. Air conditioning and plumbing are still incomplete in remainder of building making it impossible for Camera and Printing Sections to move completely into their accomodation. It is anticipated that this will happen in the first week in November. Extensions to unit 'Q' Store will begin as soon as Printing Section move to new area.

27. Rearrangement of unit working and living areas is shown in Annex P.

STORES AND EQUIPMENT

28. Surveying Set Distance Measuring. Two systems were delivered to this location on 31 Oct 67.

29. Projector, Vertical, Hoh and Hahne. Expense and ancillary items as shown in letter SVY/DO/700-79 dated 28 Sep 67 have not arrived for this equipment. Four shutter mechanisms and two cable releases arrived during reporting period but of these three shutters and one cable were unserviceable on delivery. Unit photographer was able to restore two shutters.

  
.....  
(A.W. Laing)  
Capt  
OC A Sect I Topo Svy Tp

- Annex A. SUMMARY OF MAJOR TASKS.
- B. SUMMARY OF SCREEN PRINTING.
- C. SUMMARY OF MAP DISTRIBUTION.
- F. PLAN OF UNIT AREA.

DISTRIBUTION

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

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Annex A to Operation Report No 18

SUMMARY OF MAJOR TASKS

Tasks	Date Commenced	Fieldwork	Computation	Enlargement	Photo Inspection	Photo Plotting	Compilation to Worksheet	Final Drawing	Colour Separation	Printing	Completed	Date complete or Date Planned	Remarks
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)	(l)	(m)	(n)
SONG RAI POSTS 1:10000		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	-	90	Nov 67	Waiting for airconditioning before printing.
XUYEN MOC 1:10000		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	-	90	Nov 67	
PHUOC HAI 1:5000	Sep 67	100	100								10	Dec 67	
PHUOC LOI 1:5000	Sep 67	100	100								10	Dec 67	
DAT DO 1:10000	Sep 67	100	100								10	Dec 67	
SOUI NGHE 1:10000	Oct 67	50	50								5	Jan 68	
HOA LONG 1:5000 Second Edition)	Oct 67	50	50								5	Jan 68	
I ATF CANTONMENT Svy (Redrawing)	Sep 67	100			100	100	100	100		100	100	15 Oct	
AP SOUI NGHE Contour Plan		80	80	100			80	80			80	Nov 67	Awaiting further levelling.
PHUOC TUY PROVINCE 1:250000							100	100		100	100	27 Oct	One colour map, foolscap size for reports.
<u>Op KENMORE</u> Enemy Intelligence Overprint.							100	100		100	100	28 Oct	Same info as for OpC.
Operation Area O/P HO TRAM Defence C/P							100	100	100	100	100	28 Oct	" "
<u>Op SANTA FE</u> En Intelligence O/P	19 Oct						100	100		100	100	29 Oct	One colour C/Print.
Operation Area O/P	20 Oct						100	100		100	100	21 Oct	
POW Tags	24 Oct			100			100	100		100	100	22 Oct	
							100	100		100	100	27 Oct	O/P on linen tag for Div Int Unit.

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Annex B to Operation Report No 18

SUMMARY OF SILKSCREEN PRINTING

Job No	Name	No of Colours	No of Copies	No of Pulls
	<u>Op SANTA FE</u>			
AFV/F7 - 12/1182	Enemy Intelligence Overprint 6430-II	1	210	210
12/1182	Enemy Intelligence Overprint (Revised) 6430-II	1	210	210
12/1183	Operation Areas Overprint 6430-I	1	200	200
12/1184	" " " 6430-II	1	200	200
	<u>After Action Report Op KENMORE</u>			
12/1177	Enemy Intelligence and Operation Areas Overprint 6429-I-NE	3	40	120
12/1178	" " " " " 6430-II-SE	3	40	120
12/1179	" " " " " 6530-III-SW	3	40	120
12/1185	HQ I ATF DEFENDED AREA Overprint (HO TRAM ENLARGEMENT)	1	29	29
	Report Cover	1	40	40
	PHUOC TUY PROVINCE 1:250,000	1	100	100
	POW Tags (2 Types)	1	190	280
	Total 1 - 31 Oct 67		1299	1629
	Accumulative		26894	41479

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Annex C to Operation Report I8

MAP DISTRIBUTION SUMMARY

Unit	L8015 I:25000	L7014 I:50000	L8020 PICTO	JOG 'A'	JOG 'G'	MISC
A Sqn 3 Cav Regt		82	II7			
I/83 Bn	20			4		I4
4 Fd Regt RAA	20	25				
I06 Bty RAA		16	I6			
I08 Bty RAA	32	48	22			
I6I Bty RNZA			9			
I Fd Sqn RAE		I20				
I04 Sig Sqn		6	I	6		6
547 Sig Tp		23				4
2 RAR	I20	90	390		I4	4
V Coy 2 RNZIR	248		96			
7 RAR	470	I40	II5			I0
I SAS Sqn		I20	I20		I9	
I6I Recce Flt		54	I76			4
HQ I ATF	33	68	95	4		5
USAF	26	32	I8	4		
I ARU	I8	I5	I8		6	2
HQ Coy I ATF	I		3			
I Topo Svy Tp	I36	644	I9	I	I	3
I Div Int Unit		I60	I72			I
Arty TAC	I05	59	I9			
Battle Int Unit	I20	98		I2		6
I Aust CA Unit	I8	64				3
HQ AFV						I4
67 GL Sect				96		6
Total	I367	I864	I406	I27	40	82

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