

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Army Aviation units

Item number: 8/1/21

Item: 161 [Independent]

Reconnaissance Flight

Narrative

[1-30 Jun 1967]

COVERING LETTER

Reference No.

To: OIC, Military History Section, AHQ.

1. I enclose Commanders Diary (AF C 2118) (Adapted) as indicated at Part 2.

2. Please return receipt below.

(Signature) *Donald Hutchinson for MAS*

Appointment OC 161 (INDEP) RECCE FLT
(OC Unit or senior staff officer)

Accepted & forwarded 16/8/67

SECRET

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

COMMANDERS DIARY

OF

Unit or Formation 161 (Indep) Recce Flt

From 1 Jun 67 To 30 Jun 67

INDEX

Narrative (AF C 2118)

ANNEXES

- * A Duty officer's log
- * B Messages connected with log
- C Operation orders and instructions issued
- D Operation orders and instructions received
- * E Sitreps issued
- F Orders of battle and location reports issued
- G Intelligence reports and summaries issued; appreciations made
- H Administrative orders and instructions issued
- I Administrative orders and instructions received
- J Administrative reports and bulletins; ammunition returns; field strength returns
- * K Standing orders issued
- L Commander's policy and demi-official letters
- M Action reports (if required)
- N Other papers, eg, maps and diagrams, air photos, reports from sub units
- O Periodical summaries of operations
- Z Top Secret Supplementary Diary

Enclosure Numbers

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† NIL
† RETAINED
† Despatched to

on

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

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LVKEL 3

COMMANDERS DIARIES INSTRUCTIONS

AIM

1. The aim of a Commanders Diary is to provide data on which to base future improvements in Army training, equipment, organization and administration, and to furnish historians with a record of the activities of units and formations in operational and non-operational periods in peace and in war.

GENERAL

2. Entries are to be made daily on AF C 2118 (Adapted) each entry being initialled by the officer detailed to keep it.
3. Commanders Diaries will conform with the rules for drafting orders given in "Staff Duties (Australia)" Chapter 2, Section 12.

RESPONSIBILITY

During Non-operational Periods

4. A Commanders Diary is to be compiled by commanders of all formations.

During Operational Periods (1)

5. A Commanders Diary is to be compiled in duplicate by:
 - a. Commanders of all formations.
 - b. Each branch of the staff at formation headquarters commanded by a brigadier or above.
 - c. Heads of services not below the rank of lieutenant colonel.
 - d. Personal staffs and officers holding special appointments.
 - e. Unit commanders.
 - f. Commanders of a detachment of a unit when so ordered.

COMPILATION

6. Both original and duplicate copies are to consist of:
 - a. Cover (AF C 2119) (Adapted).
 - b. Index as printed on cover.
 - c. Narrative (AF C 2118) (Adapted).
 - d. Annexes as shown in the Index.
7. All details of the unit or formation (if a detachment is concerned, the name of the parent unit), period covered and enclosure numbers of the annexes are to be shown on the cover. If there has been a change of command since the last report, the date of assumption by the new commanding officer is to be included.
8. The annexes are to be assembled in the groups shown on the cover. If there are no enclosures for an annex NII 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

EVENTS

as well as map references), establishment, equipment

and orders given.

of the day's fighting, including company movements.

of the commander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

of essential importance.

of officers, men and equipment.

of equipment captured.

of personnel employed in the time not accounted for. The type of

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

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

(continued on back cover)

AWM 95

[8/1/Jan 67]

DISPOSAL

13. **Original Commander's Diary.** This is to be forwarded monthly, unless otherwise ordered, by seventh day of the succeeding month direct to AHQ.
14. **Duplicate Commander's Diary.** This must be clearly marked as a duplicate. It is to be sent separately from the original to AHQ one month after the original has been despatched but not before the former has been acknowledged.
15. When overseas, both copies of diaries are to be sent through the Army Records organization in the overseas theatre but at different times.
16. **TOP SECRET Supplementary Diaries.**
- a. The documents referred to in Paragraph 9 together with a list of them made out on AF C 2118 (Adapted) must be placed in separate cover (AF C 2119) (Adapted). All details must be filled in and the cover clearly marked in red: "ANNEX Z — OFFICER ONLY". It may be convenient to group the papers by appendices.
 - b. Supplementary diaries must be forwarded under the normal rules for TOP SECRET correspondence, to AHQ. The inner envelope must be plainly marked:

TOP SECRET
ANNEX Z to

Commanders Diary of.....(Formation or Unit)

From.....to..... (Dates)

- c. The duplicate supplementary diaries must be despatched as shown in Paragraph 14 as soon as receipt of the original has been acknowledged.

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION 161 (Indep) Lecce Flt

MONTH AND YEAR June 1967

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY PROVINCE

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj L.G. Doyle

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
NUI DAT	1 June		FW and RW operations in support of HQ 1 ATF.	
	2 June		FW and RW operations in support of HQ 1 ATF.	
			51727 2lt R. Hutchinson flying A1-403 suffered an engine failure while landing at 1 Fd Sqn. He force landed into terraced paddies resulting in category 5 damage to the aircraft, minor injuries to the pilot and serious injuries to the passenger.	
	3 June		FW and RW operations in support of HQ 1 ATF.	
			1200446 Cpl P.J. Greenbury marched in from Australia.	
	4 June		FW and RW operations in support of HQ 1 ATF	
	5 June		FW and RW operations in support of HQ 1 ATF	
	6 June		FW and RW operations in support of HQ 1 ATF.	
			16591 Tpr H.R. Tessmer marched in from Australia.	
	7 June		FW and RW operations in support of "Operation DARWIN" and HQ 1 ATF.	
			1200143 Pte C.J. Williams marched out on RTA.	
	8 June		FW and RW operations commenced in Support of "Operation BROKEN HILL" continued in support of HQ 1 ATF and concluded in support of "Operation DARWIN"	
	9 June		FW and RW operations in support of "Operation BROKEN HILL" and HQ 1 ATF. 1731869 Pte A.R. Weertman was detached to KANGAROO control and 2783966 Pte R.G. Feltham returned from KANGAROO Control.	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION 161 (Indep) Recce Flt

MONTH AND YEAR June 67

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY PROVINCE

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj L.G. Doyle

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
NUI DAT	10 June		FW and RW operations in support of "Operation BROKEN HILL" and HQ 1 ATF.	
	11 June		FW and RW operations in support of "Operation BROKEN HILL" and HQ 1 ATF.	
	12 June		FW and RW operations in support of "Operation BROKEN HILL" and HQ 1 ATF.	
	13 June		FW and RW operations in support of "Operation BROKEN HILL" and HQ 1 ATF.	
			3410191 Cpl D.W. Chandler, 18443 Cpl G.R. Krause and 216103 Cfn J.C. Power marched out on RTA. 16591 Tpr H.R. Tessmer was detached to KANGAROO Control.	
	14 June		FW and RW operations concluded in support of "Operation BROKEN HILL"	
			342751 WO2 I.R.M. McVIE, 42903 Cpl W.D. Jakeman, 1731985 Pte D.J. Ambler, 5411533 Cfn D.H. Shearer, 1731685 Cfn J.P. O'Reilly, 4410942 Pte R.L. List and 2412352 Pte J.B. Hatton marched in from Australia.	
	15 June		FW and RW operations in support of HQ 1 ATF.	
	16 June		FW and RW operations in support of HQ 1 ATF and "Operation GERALDTON".	
			19994 2lt T.W. Guivarra was detached to 54th Coy 222 Bn, US Army for a month to study US Army operations.	
17 June		FW and RW operations in support of "Operation GERALDTON" and HQ 1 ATF		
18 June		FW and RW operations in support of "Operation GERALDTON" and HQ 1 ATF		
19 June		FW and RW operations in support of "Operation GERALDTON" and HQ 1 ATF		
20 June		FW and RW operations in support of "Operation GERALDTON" and HQ 1 ATF		

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 161 (Inde Recce Flt)

MONTH AND YEAR June 1967

REFERENCE MAP PHUOC TUY PROVINCE

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj L.G. Doyle

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
NUI DAT	20 June		4718090 Pte P.E. Henry returned from KANGAROO Control	
	21 June		FW and RW operations in support of "Operation GERADLTON" and HQ 1 ATF 216795 Spr M.R. Gallagher marched in from Australia.	
	22 June		FW and RW operations concluded in support of "Operation GERALDTON"	
	23 June		FW and RW operations commenced in support of "Operation COOPAROO". 12845 WO2 C.J. Campbell returned from detachment to 125 ATC Coy at US Army Airfield, VUNG TAU. 36953 Cpl A.E.M. Phillips was Medevac to Australia.	
	24 June		FW and RW operations in support of "Operation COOPAROO" and HQ 1 ATF	
	25 June		FW and RW operations in support of "Operation COOPAROO" and HQ 1 ATF	
	26 June		FW and RW operations in support of "Operation COOPAROO" and HQ 1 ATF 17699 2lt C.W.J. Scott returned from Detachment with 54th Avn Coy 222 Bn US Army.	
	27 June		FW and RW operations in support of "Operation COOPAROO" and HQ 1 ATF	
	28 June		FW and RW operations in support of "Operation COOPAROO" and HQ 1 ATF	
	29 June		FW and RW operations in support of "Operation COOPAROO" and HQ 1 ATF	
	30 June		FW and RW operations in support of "Operation COOPAROO" and HQ 1 ATF 17699 2lt C.W.J. Scott and 51727 2lt R. Hutchinson were promoted to Lieutenant.	