

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Army Aviation units

Item number: 8/1/23

Item: 161 [Independent]

Reconnaissance Flight

Narrative

[1-31 Aug 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) G. Bonetable MajAppointment OC 161 (Indep) Recce Flt
(OC Unit or senior staff officer)**SECRET**ORIGINAL
~~DUPLICATE~~Strike out where
not applicable**COMMANDERS DIARY**

OF

Unit or Formation 161 (Indep) Recce FltFrom 1 Aug 67To 31 Aug 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.

PART 3

COMMANDERS DIARIES INSTRUCTIONS

AIM

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

GENERAL

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

RESPONSIBILITY

During Non-operational Periods

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

During Operational Periods (1)

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

COMPILATION

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

for operations form Annex "Z", "TOP SECRET" the document. It is to be prepared and disposed of as

CONTENTS

as well as map references), establishment, equipment and orders given. the day's fighting, including company movements. Commander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

potential importance. s to officers, men and equipment. uipment captured. s employed in the time not accounted for. The type of

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

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

(continued on back cover)

DISPOSAL

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

TOP SECRET

ANNEX Z to

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

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

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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION 161 (Indep) Recce Flt

MONTH AND YEAR Aug 1967

REFERENCE MAP Phuoc Tuy Province

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj Constable

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	1 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Cairns" concluded this day. Lt Peacock in A1-403 received 30 rds SA/Tracer with nil damage. 25621 Maj L.G. Doyle departed 161 for RTA.	
	2 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of HQ 1 ATF.	
	3 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of HQ 1 ATF.	
	4 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Ballarat" and HQ 1 ATF.	
	5 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Ballarat" and HQ 1 ATF.	
	6 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Ballarat" and HQ 1 ATF.	
	7 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Ballarat" and HQ 1 ATF.	
	8 Aug		43873 2Lt P.L. Garton arrived in theatre.	
	8 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Ballarat" and HQ 1 ATF. 54178 Sgt D.H.V. Ward arrived in theatre.	
	9 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Ballarat" and HQ 1 ATF.	
	10 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Ballarat" and HQ 1 ATF.	
	11 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Ballarat" and HQ 1 ATF.	
	12 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Ballarat" and HQ 1 ATF.	
	13 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Ballarat" and HQ 1 ATF.	
	14 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Ballarat" and HQ 1 ATF.	

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 161 (Indep) Recce Flt

MONTH AND YEAR Aug 1967

REFERENCE MAP Phuoc Tuy Province

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj Constable

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	15 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Ballarat" and HQ 1 ATF. 2782334 2lt D.J. Trick arrived in theatre 25712 WO2 C.G. Maley arrived in theatre 55062 Pte K.L. Cousins arrived in theatre 1731549 Spr R.G. Betts arrived in theatre	
	16 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Ballarat" and Operation "Atherton" and HQ 1 ATF. "Operation Ballarat" concluded this day.	
	17 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Atherton" and HQ 1 ATF.	
	18 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Atherton", and HQ 1 ATF. Operation "Mosman" was conducted this day (cordon and search HOA LONG Village).	
	19 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Atherton" and HQ 1 ATF. 1410797 L cpl B.E. Hilton arrived in theatre.	
	20 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Atherton", and HQ 1 ATF.	
	21 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Atherton", and HQ 1 ATF.	
	22 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Atherton" and HQ 1 ATF. 12845 WO2 C.J. Campbell RTA.	
	23 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Atherton" concluded this day.	
	24 Aug		FW and RW operations in support of Operation "Burnside" concluded this day.	

1 B P Coy-275/65-55m

