

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Engineer units

Item number: 4/4/2

Item: 17 Construction Squadron
Workshop

[8-31 Mar 1966]

COVERING LETTER

Reference No. 207/1/10

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) X

Appointment

(OC Unit or senior staff officer)

SECRET

Receipted 12 Feb 1966

ORIGINAL DUPLICATE

Strike out where not applicable

COMMANDERS DIARY

OF

Unit or Formation 17 Const Sqn Wksp RAEME

From 8 Mar 66

To 31 Mar 66

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

- to
to
to
to
to
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to
to
to
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to
to
to
to
to

† NIL
† RETAINED
† Despatched to

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

on.....

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

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 potential importance.

of officers, men and equipment.

of equipment captured.

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

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

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

(continued on back cover)

COMMA **DISPOSAL** DIARIES

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.

COMPILATION

6. Each 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), units 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 indicated.

8. The annexes are to be assembled in the groups shown on the cover. If there are no annexes for an annex NIL will be entered on the cover. If additional annexes are considered for a particular battle or operation at B.

The operations form Annex "Z". TOP SECRET the document. It is to be prepared and despatched as a

INDEX

as well as map references), include location, etc.

1 unless given.

the day's fighting, including company movements, commander with regard to equipment, etc.

essential importance.

of officers, men and equipment.

ment captured.

employed in the area are reported by. The use of

and to give such information as possible as to details of the day's fighting, including company movements, commander with regard to equipment, etc. All and the date of receipt or disposal is to be given.

to annexes, but need not give a profile of any of them.

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 Mar 66

REFERENCE MAP KINGSFORD - SYDNEY

UNIT/FORMATION 1st Const Sqn Wksp RAEME

COMMANDING OFFICER Capt R.D. KIPPEN

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
KINGSFORD	8 Mar 66		Maj M.G.BYTH- CO CONST SQN related proposed move. Practicability to function as a workshop non existant owing to lack of Staff, Stores ^{AND} AW Technical Equipment. <i>R</i>	
KINGSFORD	9 Mar 66		Sqn CO Maj M.G.BYTH held "O"Group with unit Officers, KIPPEN, MCKENZIE (55aess) MENZIE, FERNIHOUGH, TONK, HOBBS warning unit to be ready for operations by 7 Apr 66. Stating that there was still nothing official. All indents to be marked "FLINTSTONE" PRI ONE". <i>R</i>	
KINGSFORD	10 Mar 66		D.P.I. checks instigated. Unit D.P.I. standard low. <i>R</i>	
KINGSFORD	11 Mar 66	1430	Attended "O"Group called by Sqn Comdr. <i>R</i>	
KINGSFORD	14 Mar 66		Lt Col McNIVEN DAQMG E COMD called upon Sqn Comd. Attended "O"Group stating Readiness state of Wksp and Equipment. Instructed to enface all indents with "HARDIHOOD". <i>R</i>	
KINGSFORD	16 Mar 66		Instructed that "HARDIHOOD" to be replaced by "LONGDAY" <i>R</i>	
KINGSFORD	17 Mar 66		Liased with Sydney Area Wksp for assistance in Inspection and repair of "B" and "C" vehicles. Organised with Maj. GORDON, Capt SINCLAIR Sydney Area Wksp and Maj WHEELDON of DDEME Branch E COMD. <i>R</i>	
KINGSFORD	18 Mar 66		Advance Party of WOI RUSSELL Spr GODDARD sent on Pre Embarkation Leave. <i>R</i>	

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 Mar 66

REFERENCE MAP KINGSFORD - SYDNEY

UNIT/FORMATION 17 Const Sqn Wksp
RAEME
COMMANDING OFFICER Capt R.D.KIPPEN

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
KINGSFORD	21 Mar 66		Cfn MUIR attended Civil Attachment, at LE TOURNAEU WESTINGHOUSE, on "D" Pull Scrapers electrical systems. Sydney Area personnel start inspection programme on "C" Vehicles. <i>R</i>	
KINGSFORD	22 Mar 66		"Q" Series table obtained, laying out equipment and personnel to accompany unit overseas. "C" Vehicle repairs commenced by Civil contractors, some insitu others delivered to trade houses, with repair time to be completed by 5 Apr 66. <i>R</i>	
KINGSFORD	23 Mar 66	1330	Most Workshops personnel had medical. <i>R</i>	
KINGSFORD	24 Mar 66	1330	Dental check on Workshop personnel. <i>R</i>	
KINGSFORD	25 Mar 66		Second group of Workshop personnel commenced Pre-Embarkation leave. Submitted first Operational Readiness Report. <i>R</i>	(J1)
KINGSFORD	26 Mar 66		Attended "O" Group conducted by Maj. BYTH with Capt MENZIE, Lts FERNIHOUGH, HOBBS, 2 Lts TONK, BRANDIE, dealing mainly with probable position and conditions for Sqn site in SVN (SOUTH VIETNAM). <i>R</i>	
KINGSFORD	28 Mar 66		Submitted List of Ineligibles and Deficiencies of "HARDIHOOD" Cfn ENGLISH attended "SOLO" chain saw Civil Attachment conducted at BALMAIN. Sgt MYERS of ADV Party sent on Pre.-Em Leave. <i>R</i>	(J2)

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 Mar 66

REFERENCE MAP KINGSFORD - SYDNEY

UNIT/FORMATION 17 Const Sqn Wksp
RAEME

COMMANDING OFFICER Capt R.D.KIPPEN

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
KINGSFORD	28 Mar 66	2000	Attended conference with Maj BYTH, Capt MENZIE, Lt HOBBS, Maj KEW (E&C E3 Equip) Capt STEWART Capt CHARLTON.	
			Submitted Operational Readiness "A" Aspects, Unit Movement Data table, detail of mobile equipment. R	(J3)
KINGSFORD	29 Mar 66		Cpl JASPER and Spr FARRAR attended Civil attachment for 40 HP JOHNSON Outboard Motors, Canterbury Rd, BANKSTOWN. Received E.D.C. of "C" Vehicles from Sydney Area Workshops and conferred with Maj BYTH and Maj PEAK (CE Branch) Victoria Barracks) about same. Requested early return of Sgt BARRETT and Cpl BEGGS from courses at RAEME Trg Centre BANDIANA, also requested early release of Cpl JOHNSON by 20 Apr 66. R	
KINGSFORD	30 Mar 66		Received names of additional T.W.E. personnel. Vacancies at this stage for Pte Clerk, Cpl Ordnance, Pte Cook. Posting order for Cpl CONDRIELLA received, to go to /Fd Regt LAD. Received accommodation stores from QM 17 Const Sqn R	

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 Mar 66

REFERENCE MAP KINGSFORD - SYDNEY

UNIT/FORMATION 17 Const Sqn Wksp
RAEME

COMMANDING OFFICER Capt R.D. KIPPEN

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
KINGSFORD	31 Mar 66		Received notification of Unit Identification change by Signal from 17 Const Sqn.	(HI)
			Submitted Operational Readiness state.	(J9)
			Three March Ins & Vehicle mechanic (b) Auto Electrician (c) Workshop Assistant. <i>R</i>	

MESSAGE FORM

Annex 'B'
H1

Number

FOR COMM CEN/SIGNALS USE

PRECEDENCE — ACTION IMMEDIATE	PRECEDENCE — INFO DEFERRED	DATE — TIME — GROUP 310600 Z	MESSAGE INSTRUCTIONS
From 17 CONST SQN RAE			PREFIX GR
To 8 Tp 9 Tp 10 Tp Res Tp Plant Tp HQ Tpt 17 Const Sqn Wksps QM			SECURITY CLASSIFICATION Restd
			ORIGINATOR'S NUMBER

Info

UNIT IDENTIFICATION (.) ON ALL VEHs, EQPT AND STORES (.) DELETE 1054 AND
 CORRESPONDING COLOURS INSERT 1058 AND CORRESPONDING COLOURS (.) DELETE ¹⁷292
 INSERT 108 WHITE ON ROYAL BLUE (.) EME (.) DELETE 1235 AND COLOURS INSERT 1568 AND
 COLOURS (.) DELETE ¹⁷292 INSERT 108 WHITE ON BLUE/YELLOW/RED

Page of pages	REFERS TO MESSAGE CLASSIFIED <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	DRAFTER'S NAME HOBBS	OFFICE 2IC	TELE No X38						
FOR OPS USE R	DATE	TIME	SYSTEM	Operator	D	DATE	TIME	SYSTEM	Operator	RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE AND RANK <i>[Signature]</i>

SECRET

Annex B to
E COMD 28/601/289 (Q)
OF 25 MAR 66

OPERATIONAL READINESS - 'A' ASPECTS - DEFICIENCIES

17 Const Sqn Wksps RAEME Total Str 1 Offr 40 OR

	EFFECTIVE MANPOWER		INELIGIBLE MANPOWER NOT POSTED OUT		MEDICAL			DENTAL	IDENTITY CARDS	IDENTITY DISCS	PHOTOGRAPHS	FAMILY REGISTRATION FORM
	Offr	OR	Offr	On	Immun	Blood Gp RH Factor	INT HEALTH Certif raised	Dentally Fit	Prepared	Complete	AB83 Paybooks ID Card 2 for PX Card 1x1 1/2	Issued
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)	(l)
Series 1	1	24	Nil	2	Revac 6 Tab 4 Tet 14 Flu Polio 7 Typhus 17 Cholera 14 Plague 17 Mantoux 7	8	5	6	2	4	2	18
Series 2	1	28	Nil	2	As for Series 1 Plus 4	12	9	10	6	8	6	22
Series 3	1	40	Nil	Nil	As for Series 2 Plus 14	26	23	24	20	22	20	36
NOTE: Series					1.	Strength on ground						
					2.	Posted Strength						
					3.	Establishment Strength						

Annex 16
J2

17 Const Sqn Wksp RAEME
Avoca Street
KINGSFORD

28 Mar 66

HQ E Comd

LIST OF INELIGIBLES AND DEFICIENCIES
OF HARDHOOD

1. POSTED STRENGTH

- | | | | |
|-----|----------------|--------|-------|
| (a) | Marched in | 1 Offr | 24 OR |
| (b) | NOT Marched In | | 4 OR |
| (c) | Deficiencies | | 12 OR |

2. INELIGIBLES

- | | | | |
|-----|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| (a) | Cpl A. CANDRIELLA | Fitter & Turner | due discharge |
| (b) | Cfn A.J. ANNESLEY | Wksp assist | Under age
DOB 30 Jun 48 |

3. VAGANCIES INCL INELIGIBLES AND DEFICIENCIES (14)

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------|---------|
| (a) | Fitter and Turner | Sgt |
| (b) | " " | Cpl |
| (c) | " " | Cfn x 2 |
| (d) | Veh Mech | Cpl |
| (e) | " " | Cfn |
| (f) | Wksp Assist | Cfn x 2 |
| (g) | Dvr/Batman | Pte |
| (h) | Clerk Tech | Cfn |
| (j) | Clerk Ord | Cpl |
| (k) | Clerk Ord | Pte |
| (l) | Storeman Ord | Pte |
| (m) | Cook | Pte |

DL Holt Capt
OC

~~SECRET~~
Annex 3
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17 CONST SQN WKSP RAEME

1500 Hrs 28 Mar 66

111/90/1(TW)
3040

"Q" Table 44

6043A	AUTO REPAIR SHOP Garage $\frac{3}{4}$ Ton	2	Nil	2	Nil	-
6039B	SHOP ELECT Truck $\frac{3}{4}$ Ton	1	Nil	1	1	106 $\frac{2}{3}$ 66
6040B	WELDING Shop Truck $\frac{3}{4}$ Ton	1	Nil	1	1	107 $\frac{2}{3}$ 66
6140A	MACHINE Shop 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ton GS	1	Nil	1	1	-
	TLR AUTO Repair $\frac{1}{2}$ Ton	2	Nil	2	Nil	-
6017F	TLR ELECT Repair $\frac{1}{2}$ ton	1	Nil	1	1	108 $\frac{2}{3}$ 66

6017K	TLR WELDING $\frac{1}{2}$ Ton	1	Nil	1	1	109	2/3/66
6032	LUB & Service Truck $\frac{3}{4}$ Ton	1	Nil	1	1		
6017N	TLR LUB & Service $\frac{1}{2}$ Ton	1	Nil	1	1		
6302	Lub & Service $2\frac{1}{2}$ ton	1	Nil	1	1		
KEKCAO400	CABINET Index	3	2	3	1	20	15/12/65
W3 WCA 6397	BATTERY Power Supply 6-12-24 Volt H/	1	Nil	1	1	179 ^x 95391	7/3/66
LV6 MT2 WC A 0800	EQUIP Clean & Test Fuel System	1	Nil	1	1	177953897	7/3/66
JI	SHELTER Port 18F SAAW	4	4	4	Nil	30 ^x 7250	16/12/65
8340-66-018-2165	TENT 11' x 11' Ext	2	Nil	2	2	36	16/12/65
8340-66-018-2165	TENT SECT 11'x11'Ext	2	Nil	2	2	36	16/12/65
6665-66-018-6041	DETECTING Set Mine	1	Nil	1	1	74	16/12/65
6625-66-012-1936	MULTIMETER	1	Nil	1	1	76 ^x 7032	16/12/65
6115	GENSET 15KVA	2	Nil	2	2	199	8/3/66
6115	GENSET 10KVA	2	Nil	2	2	199	8/3/66

Annex
J3

2540-66-015-5449	CESS Maint Kit	2	Nil	2	2	110	2/3/66	
3945-66-017-5973	SAW HACK Port Elect	1	Nil	1	1	112 ^{x95/} ₀₃₇	4/3/66	
3990-66-016-6096	MACH Pull T Lift	1	-	1	1	114	4/3/66	✓
4910	EQUIP SPOT Check Hartridge	1	-	1	1	116	4/3/66	✓
4940-66-021-4617	PRESS	1	-	1	1	118 ^{x95/} ₃₆₁	4/3/66	
W3WGA 6323	PRESS	1	-	1	1	181	7/3/66	
5805-66-012-8959	TELEPHONE	2	-	2	2	197	8/3/66	
5820-00-086-7535	RADIO	1	-	1	1	198	8/3/66	
4910-66-02-5935	ADAPTOR	1	-	1	1	204	9/3/66	
5120-00-861-4015	EXTRACTOR	1	-	1	1	205	9/3/66	
5210-00-361-1344	GUAGE	1	-	1	1	206	9/3/66	✓
5220-00-331-6086	GUAGE	1	-	1	1	207	9/3/66	
5820-00-856-9166	INSTALLATION RADIO	1	-	1	1	219	24/3/66	
KE KEA 0400	CABINET	4	-	4	4	225	24/3/66	
JI-JAA 366	SHELTER 18° PORT	1	-	1	1	226	24/3/66	
JI-JAA 0201	BAG WATER	1	-	1	1	227	"	
F3 FCA 0035	MACHINE TYING	2	-	2	2	228	"	
8340-66-019-3632	PAULINS	4	-	4	4	231	"	
5805-66-018-5313	TELEPHONE	1	-	1	1	237	"	

Wksp File

Annex 2

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RESTRICTED

ANNEX A TO
E COMD 28/601/228 (GI/6)
DATED MAR 66

READINESS STATE

UNIT..... **17 CONST SQN WKSP RAEME**

310200Z

As at.....

SERIAL	% Effectiveness of Manning Detail	Personnel		Deficiencies	Major Equipments	Remarks
		Offr	OR	Vehicles		
	(a)	(b)	(c)	Quantity and type	Quantity and Type	(f)
1	5%					
2		Nil				
3			15			
4				6043A AUTO REPAIR SHOP GARAGE $\frac{3}{4}$ ton	2	Posting Order Received for 4 off this number
5				6039B SHOP ELEC TRUCK $\frac{3}{4}$ ton	1	To be collected 1 Apr
6				6040B WELDING SHOP $\frac{3}{4}$ ton	1	
7				6140A MACHINE SHOP $2\frac{1}{2}$ ton	1	Due 4 Apr 66 ex S Cond
8				6017 TLR AUTO REPAIR $\frac{1}{2}$ ton	2	To be collected 1 Apr