

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Detachment, 1 Topographical
Survey Troop

Item number: 5/1/29

Item: A Section 1 Topographical
Survey Troop

Operational Report no. 28

[photocopy]

[1-31 Aug 1968]

10 Sep 68

See Distribution List

OPERATION REPORT No 28

Covering period 1 Aug - 31 Aug 68

PART 1 - G MATTERSGENERAL

1. Location: A Sect 1 Topo Svy Tp remains in location
YS 4345 6671.

2. Enemy Contact: Nil.

SURVEY SECTION3. Field Work:

- a. As in July, little field work was done during August.
- b. Tasks done included:
- (1) NUI DAT (Special) 1:10 000 Map. Field annotation for the third edition was done.
 - (2) 1 ATF Base Defence Plan 1:2 500, formerly the 1 ATF Cantonment Plan. Field revision was done.
 - (3) DA RIA (Special) 1:10 000 Map. Field checking of compilation was done.
 - (4) AP SUOI NGHE (Special) 1:10 000 Map. Field work complete.
 - (5) Sigs Aerial. One aerial site for Det 110 Sig Sqn, VUNG TAU, was set out.

4. Compilation:

- a. NUI DAT (Special) 1:10 000 Map. This map is now being published in 3 different forms as tabulated below.

TITLE	COLOURS	SECURITY CLASS	REMARKS
NUI DAT (Special) 1:10 000	4	RESTRICTED	No defence information shown
NUI DAT (Special) 1:10 000 Defence Overprint	5	CONFIDENTIAL	Some defence information overprinted in red
1 ATF Base Defence Map 1:10 000	2	SECRET	Detailed defence information overprinted in red on grey base map.

Compilation of all three maps is complete.

b. AP SUOI NGHE (Special) 1:10 000 map. Compilation complete and awaiting check.

c. miscellaneous signs and charts. Several charts and signs were drawn for other units in 1 ATF, and maps were marked up for the Alternative Command Post.

5. Aerial Photography: Photography at 1:10 000 covering the AP SUOI NGHE - BINH BA - NUI NGHE area has been received, allowing the long delayed compilation of the AP SUOI NGHE (Special) 1:10 000 map to proceed.

CARTOGRAPHIC SECTION

6. Operational Mapping:

a. DAT DO (Special) 1:10 000. Checked, and ready to print.

b. LONG DIEN (Special) 1:10 000. Drawing 20% complete.

c. NUI DAT (Special) 1:10 000 3rd Edition with Defence Overprint. Drawing 95% complete.

d. 1 ATF Base Defence Map 1:10 000. (See also paragraph 4.a. above). Drawing 80% complete.

e. 1 ATF Base Defence Plan 1:2 500. Drawing 80% complete.

f. BA RIA (Special) 1:10 000. Drawing 5% complete.

7. Miscellaneous Tasks:

a. The following operational overprints were drawn:-

(1) Trails and Enemy Installations at 2 Aug 68. (Map 6430-II).

(2) Trail and Track Overprint at 2 Aug 68. (Map 6430-II).

b. The following operational overlay was drawn:-

(1) Op NAROOMA.

c. 3 RAR History Maps. Drawing has commenced on a series of maps for a book to be published by 3 RAR. This task is much less ambitious than the task done earlier this year for 2 RAR.

d. The following miscellaneous tasks were designed and drawn:-

(1) 1 ATF IN BOUNDS notices for display in approved Vietnamese establishments (for HQ 1 ATF Hygiene Officer).

(2) Cards for operational records card index for SAS sqns in VIETNAM.

(3) Sign for Pharmacist, 1 Aust Fd Hosp.

(4) Senior Officers Chart (for PR, HQ 1 ATF).

CONFIDENTIAL

/REPRO

3. General:

- a. Full details of operational mapping and miscellaneous tasks are included in Annex B.
- b. Printing was possible for only one half of August due to critical shortage of ULANO photo stencil film (mentioned in paragraph 23 of Op Report 27 for July 68). Despite this, the printing output for August was slightly greater than that for July. This was due to relatively long runs on relatively few tasks. The printing backlog from July has still not been cleared, and several tasks are still awaiting printing.
- c. Sample specimens of printing include the following:-
 - Annex P : PHUOC LOI (Special) 1:10 000.
 - " Q : 1 ATF AOs and Patrol Zones overprint (only 1 of the 3 sheets printed is attached).
 - " R : Trails and Tracks 2 Aug 68 overprint on 6430-II.

FUTURE TASKS ON PROGRAMME

- 9. a. New cartographic aerial photography. Application is being made through HQ AFV to MACV for photography at 1:25 000 to specifications laid down by A Sect 1 Topo Svy Tp covering the area bounded by:
 - Latitude 11°00' N to 10°15' N
 - Longitude 107°00' E to 107°45' E.This photography is not to be flown until the weather is suitably cloudless, and it is hoped that it will provide the basis for:
 - (1) Future map revision.
 - (2) Aerotriangulation to provide a much denser network of photo-identified ground control than exists at present.
- b. Cleared area overprint on sheet 6430 in the L 709 1:100 000 map series.
- c. Assistance under 1 Aust Civil Affairs Unit Co-ordination to families in Block F at AP SUOI NGHE.

CONFIDENTIAL

/ A MATTERS

PART 2 - A MATTERS

POSTINGS

10. a. Arrivals:
1200805 Spr B.J. WETZIG arrived on 27 Aug.
- b. Departures:
37910 Spr D.F. BOSHER departed on 13 Aug.

PROMOTIONS

11. The following substantive promotions were promulgated during August:-

1 Jul 68	42054	T/Sgt	P.D. COX	to	Sgt.
1 Jul 68	43473	L/Cpl	M.R. RICE	to	Cpl.

VISITS

12. Visits made during August were as follows:-
- a. 12-14 Aug : Capt BULLEN to 66 Engr Co (Topo), LONG BINH and to M&I, USAECV, LONG BINH for technical liaison, and conference with M&I, ARVN Topo and NGS.
- b. 14-16 Aug : Capt BULLEN to 1 ALSG, VUNG TAU, for duties on Board of General Court Martial.

DUTIES

13. No change to previous report.

HYGIENE TRAINING

14. The members listed below attended the one week 2/68 Hygiene Dutyman's Course run by Det 1 Fd Hyg Coy and have been trade tested as Hygiene Dutymen, ECN 455.

5715361	Spr	M. SOKIL.
1200694	Spr	R.A. LAWSON.
38502	Spr	W.N. BLACK.
43473	Cpl	M.R. RICE.

15. The candidates for this course were selected on the basis of:
- a. Longest time to go in VIETNAM (Cpl RICE, Spr SOKIL).
- b. Field surveyors (Spr BLACK, Spr LAWSON).

MEDICAL

16. The following casualties occurred during August:-

<u>Occurrence</u>	<u>Total Time Off Duty</u>
1 x Mouth ulcer	5 days
2 x Ear infection	1 day
2 x Heat rash	nil
2 x Stomach upset	1 day

CONFIDENTIAL

/17.

LEAVE

17. a. Two members went on R&R Leave to HONG KONG and one to TAIPEI.
b. No-one took R&C Leave during August.

RECREATION

18. Stand-down: Half of A Sect 1 Topo Svy Tp spent a day at the Beach Annex of the Peter Badcoe Club, 1 ALSG, VUNG TAU, during August.

19. Sport

- a. A volley ball competition has been organised in 1 ATF and A Sect 1 Topo Svy Tp has started well, being the only team undefeated so far in C Section of the competition.
- b. The darts competition continues, and the A Sect 1 Topo Svy Tp darts team is at present running second in the 6-team competition.
- c. Two members of A Sect 1 Topo Svy Tp play regularly in the HQ Coy Australian Rules team which is at present undefeated in 1 ATF.
- d. Sport is encouraged to the maximum extent that is compatible with normal duties, since, apart from occasional grass cutting, normal duties do not provide much opportunity for physical exercise.
20. Unit Canteen: Further improvement has been made, a second crossbow has been received (and zeroed on the dart board), and attractive plaques have been received from:
- a. 66 Engineer Co (Topo), US Army.
- b. 1 Fd Sqn RAE.
- c. A Sqn 3 Cav Regt.

PART 3 - Q MATTERS21. Technical Expense Supplies

a. ULANO Photo Stencil Film. The supply situation became so critical that printing was halted for half of August. The new product 6770-66-025-8842 has now been received. Its trade name, SUPER PREP, is the same as that of the old product 6750-66-025-8842, but the new product is superior in respect to adhesion, stencil quality and cleaning.

b. Auto Positive Film. The urgent demand submitted on 24 July for 6750-66-024-3914 Film photo graphic auto positive KODAK EA 4 has not yet been fulfilled.

c. Polythene sheeting for repromat storage. This item was expected late in June but has still not arrived.

d. PELIKAN Drawing Ink. During August an indent for 7510-66-010-0282 Ink drawing cartographic Gunther Wagner type 17 PELIKAN was met with a supply of REEVES Indian Ink, code nr. 50199. The latter is insufficiently dense for production of a photo stencil for screen printing, so a Defective Incidence Report has been submitted on the REEVES ink, and RAAOC is now procuring PELIKAN ink on a Priority 2 basis. Meanwhile, stocks of PELIKAN ink held here are very low indeed. Other inks supplied by US Army have also been tried but are even less dense than REEVES.

22. Technical Stores:

a. No new technical stores were received during August.

b. The micrometer of one TAVISTOCK V 406 Theodolite was successfully re-indexed by 102 Fd Wksps, 1 ALSG, during August.

23. New Map Store: Building was built during August. Installation of racks, counter, etc by unit labour is now commencing.

24. Printing Room Fume Extraction: No further progress.

PART 4 - GENERAL INTEREST

25. Attached is a photo of the Unit Canteen and, left to right, Cpl APETIDALL, Sgt MARCH, Sgt SONIL, Pte TEAKW and Cpl WOOD.



The unit canteen was built in 1967 entirely from unit labour and has been improved steadily ever since.

The furniture, literature, TV and dart board have been provided by Amenities.

The shield below the TV set was presented by 66 Engr Co (Topo), US Army, during 1968.

The varnished and painted wood panelling and bookshelves have been built by members of A Sect 1 Topo Svy Tp, mostly during July 1968.

The Canteen is used for recreational purposes by all ranks of A Sect 1 Topo Svy Tp and is run by a properly constituted committee under the guidance of Sgt SMALL (Supervisor) and Cpl WOOD (President).

Bullen

(J. BULLEN)
Capt
Officer Commanding

LIST OF ANNEXES

Annex A : Summary of Major Operational Mapping Tasks.
" B : " " Screen Printing.
" C : " " Map Distribution.
" P : PHUOC LOI (Special) 1:5 000 map.
" Q : 1 ATF AOs and Patrol Zones. (Only 1 of the 3 sheets is attached).
" R : Trails and Tracks 2 Aug 68 overprint on 6430-II.

DISTRIBUTION LIST

HQ 1 ATF	:	1
D Svy	:	4
B Sect 1 Topo Svy Tp	:	2
DAD Svy E Comd	:	1
66 Engr Co (Topo)	:	1
M&I, USAECV	:	1
Diary	:	1
File	:	1

CONFIDENTIAL

Annex A to Operation Report 28

SUMMARY OF MAJOR OPERATIONAL TASKS

Task	Date Commenced	Fieldwork	Computation	Enlargement	Photo Annotation	Compilation	Fair Drawing	Printing	EXTENT COMPLETE	Date Complete	Expected Date Complete
PHUOC LOI 1:5 000	Sep 67	100	100		100	100	100	100	100	Aug 68	
DAT DO 1: 10 000	Sep 67	100	100	100	100	100	100		90		Sep 68
SUOI NGHE 1:10 000	Oct 67	100	100		100	100			30		Dec 68
HOA LONG 1:5 000	Mar 68	100	100	100	100	100	25		60		Oct 68
LONG DIEM 1:10 000	May 68	100	100		100	100	20		55		Nov 68
BA RIA 1:10 000	May 68	100	100		100	100			45		Dec 68
NUI DAT 1:10 000 (3-1 EA)	Aug 68	100	100			100	95		80		Sep 68
NUI DAT 1:10 000 (Defence Overprint)	Aug 68	100	100			100	95		80		Sep 68
1 ATF Base Defence Map 1:10 000	Aug 68	100	100			100	80		75		Sep 68
1 ATF Base Defence Plan 1:2 500	Jul 68	100		100		100	85		90		Sep 68

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Annex B to Operation Report 28

SUMMARY OF SCREEN PRINTING

Task No	Task Name	Colours	Copies	Pulls	Remarks
AFV/F7-12/2068	PHUOC LOI (Special)	4	300	1200	Annex P attached
" 2086	1 ATF AOs and Patrol Zones	2	220	880	Annex Q attached
" 2087	" " " " " "	2	220	440	(Note: Only 1 of the 3 sheets is attached).
" 2088	" " " " " "	2	220	440	"
" 2089	Tracks and Enemy Installations at 2 Aug 68, overprint on 6430-II.	2	110	220	
" 2090	Trails and Tracks at 2 Aug 68, overprint on 6430-II.	1	370	370	Annex R attached
Miscellaneous	Senior Officers Recognition Board.	1	40	40	
"	Op MARCOMA overlay.	1	110	110	
"	BA hIA Sketchmap.	1	220	220	
"	LONG DIEN Sketchmap.	1	220	220	
Total for August 68			2 030	4 140	
Cumulative Total			57 072	68 373	

CONFIDENTIAL

MAP DISTRIBUTION SUMMARY

	L8015 1:25000	L7014 1:50000	L8020 PICTO	L607 1:100000	JOG 'A'	JOG 'G'	MISC
1 ATF	347	144	1	71			129
Battle Int (HQ 1 ATF)	98	31	30	10			34
RAAF (HQ 1 ATF)	28	8	19				
A Sqn 3 Cav Regt	110	40	24				25
C Sqn 1 Armd Regt	98	108	92				40
12 Fd Regt	31	44	23	27	7	2	6
131 Div Loc Bty	48	28	26	5			1
1 Topo Svy Tp	27	11	8	17			3
1 Fd Sqn RAE	336	236		2			9
104 Sig Sqn							9
547 Sig Tp		10	4				
1 RAR		520	20				25
3 RAR	712	1727	180	21			25
4 RAR	500	210	100				50
2 SAS Sqn	60	138	60	10			11
1 ARU	106	1	16	17			
161 Recce Flt		42		9			
1 Aust CA Unit	18	6			8		8
HQ Coy	35	21	10	1	4		
TFMA	1			8			1
HQ 1 ALSG		60	10	27			10
HQ AFV							
8 Fd Amb					2		
US Navy		24					
Sector	194			2			31
TOTAL	2 749	3 409	623	227	21	2	417

TOTAL MAPS ISSUED FOR AUG 68 : 7 448.