

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

Detachment, 1 Topographical  
Survey Troop

**Item number: 5/1/48**

**Item: A Section 1 Topographical  
Survey Troop**

Operational Report no. 47

[photocopy]

[1-31 Mar 1970]

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AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

VIETNAM

A Sect 1 Topo Svy Tp  
AFPO 4  
G.P.O. SYDNEY.  
N.S.W. 2890

Apr 70

Distribution below:

OPERATIONAL REPORT NO 47  
Covering period 1 - 31 Mar 70

PART 1 - G MATTERS

GENERAL.

1. The Unit remained in 1 ATF Base.

SURVEY SECTION

2. a. Field Work

(1) A contour plan was produced for an investigation into an irrigation scheme at Ap Soughe Nghe. A dyeline of the plan is shown at Annex B.

(2) A wireless aerial was set out for 547 Sig Tp. Accuracy of orientation was - 10 of arc.

(3) Two surveys and plans were drawn of fatal accidents for A Br 1 ATF.

(4) Distances were measured by subtense methods for an investigation into possible sites for a shotgun range.

AD (e+T)  
7

(5) It was found that considerable instruction had to be given on topographic methods to the Cpl and Spr surveyors to enable them to undertake the above tasks.

- b. Compilation

(1) The edit of a colour proof for 1:50,000 TPC3 6430-I was completed and forwarded to the 29th Engr Bn.

(2) Compilation of Nui Dat (1:10,000) Special, Edit 4 remains as an opportunity task.

(3) The following maps are being prepared for a reprint in Australia:

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2.

- (a) Series L8015  
6429-I - NE - NW.  
6429-IV - NE - SW - NW.
- (b) Series L7014  
6429 - I - IV

c. Records

Unit records and the photo library were maintained.

d. F24 Photography

One run of photography was flown for map revision.

e. Man Hours

The breakdown of man hours is shown below:

<u>Task</u>	<u>% of Time</u>
Survey observations & comps	25
Map revision	20
Upkeep of records & photo library	25
Miscellaneous Plans	20
Map editing	10

CARTOGRAPHIC SECTION

3. a. Map Overlays

- (1) The following overlays are continuously updated:
  - (a) topographic
  - (b) mine
  - (c) en installations.
- (2) The following repromat was updated:
  - (a) VC districts
  - (b) VC names
- (3) An overlay showing the location of all survey marks in the province was prepared. Annex C refers.

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3.

b. Charts

Ten miscellaneous charts were drawn. A new operations map for the air cell in the CP was produced.

c. Compilation

Work was carried out on 6429-I-NE (1:25,000) in preparation for a reprint in Australia.

d. Man Hours

The breakdown of man hours is shown below:

<u>Task</u>	<u>% of Time</u>
Updating overlays	40
Charts, signs, etc	25
Compilation of Trig Overlay	10
Map Edit <del>6429-I-NE</del> 6429-I-NE	15
	10

PHOTOGRAPHIC SECTION

4. a. Hand held photography was taken and processed for the following:

- (1) passports
- (2) eqpt installation
- (3) AAB 83's
- (4) fatal accident

b. 35mm film was processed for the following:

- (1) Psyops
- (2) Engrs
- (3) Armd Sqn
- (4) PR
- (5) Battle Int
- (6) Civil Affairs

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4.

c. Process photography was undertaken for:

- (1) 2AOD
- (2) 6 RAR
- (3) Engrs

d. Mosaics were printed for stock.

e. 950 bromide prints were produced and 500 mosaics or aerial photo enlargements were produced.

f. The break down of man hours is shown below:

<u>Task</u>	<u>% of Time</u>
Aerial photography & processing	5
Sp of Svy Sec	15
Sp of Carto Sec	25
Sp of other units (fatal accident)	55

REPRODUCTION SECTION

5.

a. Operational Tasks

Map stocks were overprinted for 6RAR, 7RAR and for stock.

b. Mapping Tasks

The following were printed:

- (1) TAOR bdrys on 1:50,000 maps.
- (2) Survey mark locations.
- (3) VC districts on 1:100,000 maps.
- (4) VC names on 1:50,000 maps.

c. Miscellaneous Printing

- (1) Computation forms for the stereotape were printed.
- (2) The unit manning chart was printed.
- (3) An intervalometer chart for planning F24 photography was printed. Annex D refers.

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5.

d. 5,500 impressions were pulled during the month. The average run was about 150.

e. The dyeline machine was used extensively by other units under unit supervision.

MAP DISTRIBUTION

6. a. The following maps were issued during the period:

<u>MAP SERIES</u>	<u>SCALE</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>
L8020 (Picto)	1:25,000	925
L8015	1:25,000	3 649
L7014	1:50,000	7 101
L607	1:100,000	458
JOG (A)	1:250,000	12
Miscellaneous	-	18
	TOTAL FOR MONTH	12 174

b.. 50 mosaics were issued

c. 20 dyeline of sketchmaps were issued.

CIVIL AFFAIRS

7. a. A contour plan was produced for a proposed irrigation scheme. Para 2(a) refers.

b. The unit participated in sport against local teams.

PART 2 - A MATTERS

NOMINAL ROLL

8. See Annex A.

VISITS

9. The D Comd of 1 ATF visited the unit.

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6.

POSTINGS

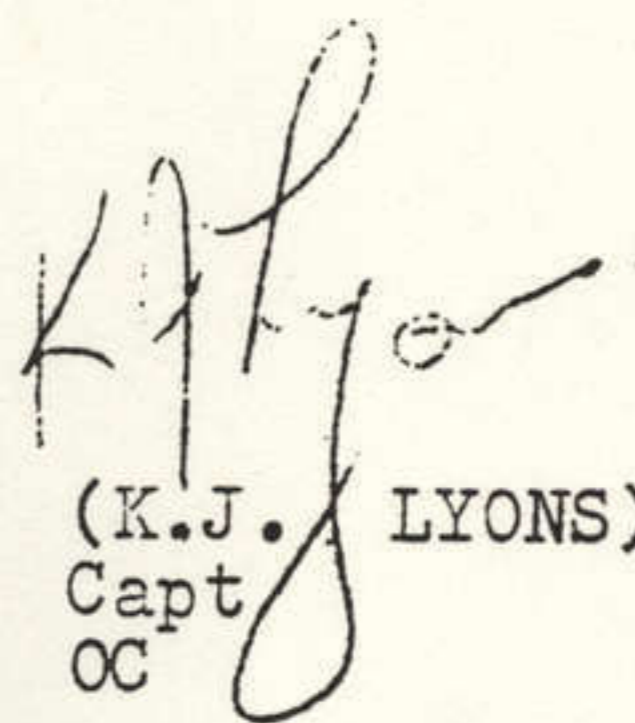
10. a. The following arrived from Australia:
- |     |         |      |     |           |           |
|-----|---------|------|-----|-----------|-----------|
| (1) | 53004   | SSgt | I J | HASTINGS  | 11 Mar 70 |
| (2) | 18644   | Sgt  | M   | NEIL      | 25 Mar 70 |
| (3) | 39332   | Spr  | B M | APPLEFORD | 18 Mar 70 |
| (4) | 1202141 | Spr  | M J | COLLINS   | 28 Mar 70 |
- b. The following departed for Australia:
- |     |        |      |     |         |           |
|-----|--------|------|-----|---------|-----------|
| (1) | 41896  | WO1  | W A | MUNRO   | 4 Mar 70  |
| (2) | 310207 | SSgt | G   | HASWELL | 18 Mar 70 |
| (3) | 312501 | Cpl  | G   | WHITE   | 18 Mar 70 |

MEDICAL

11. a. 2789525 Spr B L GRISDALE was admitted to 1 Aust Fd Hosp on 22 Mar 70 with glandular fever. He was discharged 29 Mar 70.
- b. 53731 Sgt M E SAWYER is due to be MEDEVAC in early April.

PART 3 - Q MATTERS

12. Maintenance on the Map Store was carried out.

  
(K.J. LYONS)  
Capt  
OC

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ANNEXURES

- A. Nominal Roll
- B. Dyeline - Ap Soughe Nghe Irrigation Scheme.
- C. Overlay - Location of Survey Marks in Phuoc Tuy Province.
- D. Intervalometer Chart for Planning F24 Photography.

DISTRIBUTION

HQ AFV	- 2
HQ 1 ATF	- 1
D Svy, AHQ	- 4
B Sect 1 Topo Svy Tp	- 1
66th Engr Coy (Topo)	- 1
M & I, HQ USARV	- 1
File	- 1

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Annex A to  
Op Report No 47.

NOMINAL ROLL

17082	Capt	K J	LYONS	
4719812	2Lt	J M	WHITBURN	
42180	WO1	R	McMILLAN	WO1 Svyr Topo
61797	Spr	L A	PERCEY	WO2 Platemaker Litho
53004	SSgt	I J	HASTINGS	TQMS
18644	Sgt	M	NEIL	Sgt Dtmn Topo
55376	Spr	L A	PATTERSON	Sgt Dtmn Litho
53731	Sgt	M E	SAWYER	Sgt Svyr Topo
42804	Sgt	D G	COLLINS	Sgt Svyr Topo
54378	Cpl	B E	PARKER	Cpl Clerk admin
39535	Spr	R G	BARWALD	Cpl Dtmn Litho
216481	Cpl	G E	GRAHAM	Cpl Photographer Litho
1202141	Spr	M J	COLLINS	Cpl Storeman Tech
1200238	Cpl	P E	FAITHFULL	Cpl Svyr Topo
1200512	Cpl	K J	GALLAGHER	Cpl Svyr Topo
1201787	Spr	D S	McALLAN	Spr Dtmn Topo
3411521	Lcpl	G C	MURRAY	Spr Driver
39332	Spr	B M	APPLEFORD	Spr Platemaker Litho
2276420	Spr	J F	WALKER	Spr SvyrTopo
39748	Spr	G S	DOWD	Spr Svyr Topo
3795975	Pte	A M	WALLIS	Pte Cook
55659	Spr	P R	WILLINGTON	Spr Dtmn Topo (theatre supplement)

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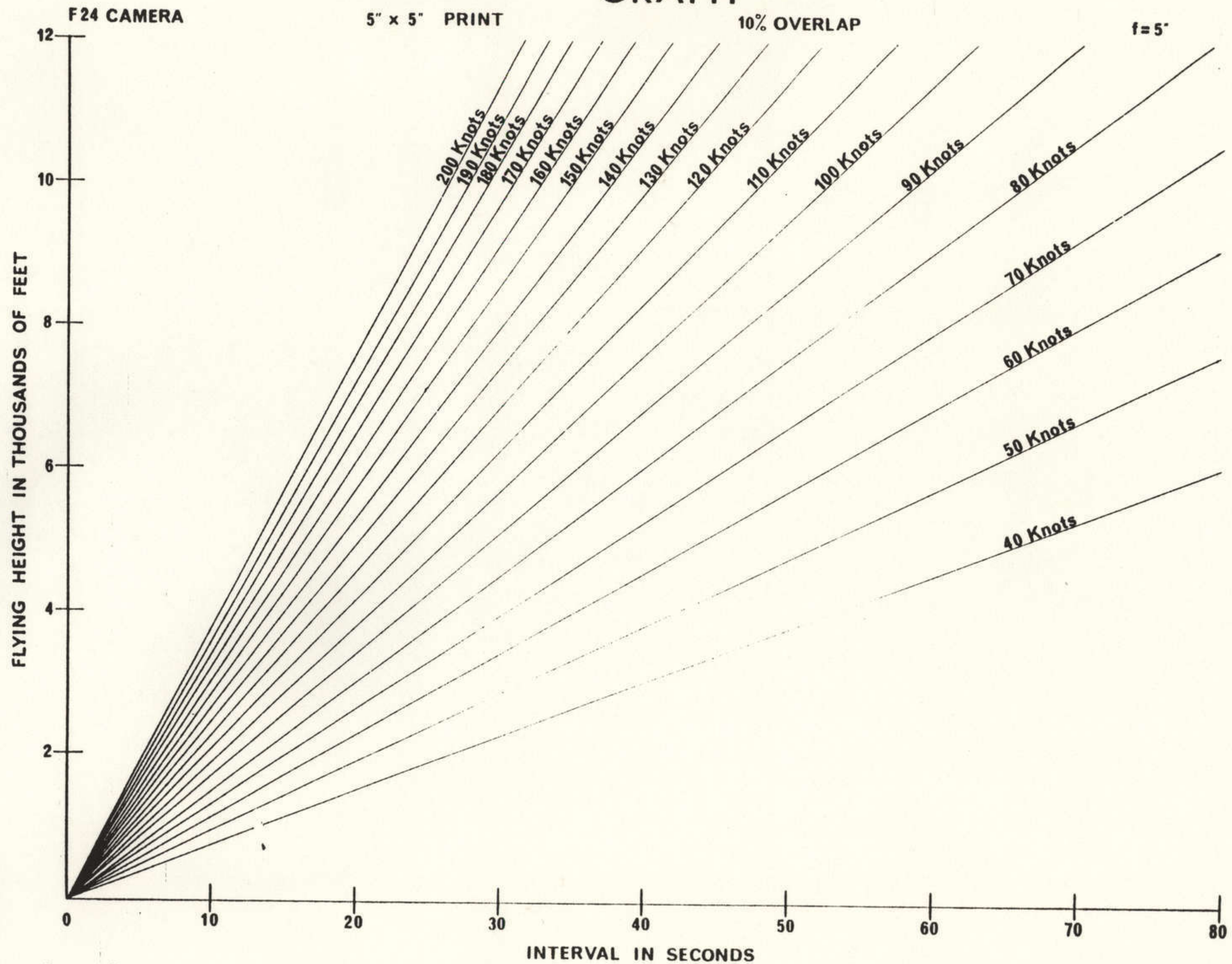
PROTECTION OF SURVEY MARKS

1. The destruction of survey ground marks is causing concern. There are approximately 150 survey marks in Phuoc Tuy Province and during the last two months 80 of these have been visited and 36 were found to be destroyed. Main causes of destruction were:
  - a. Road construction.
  - b. Building construction.
  - c. Defence construction.
2. Survey control, always militarily important to artillery fire control and mapping accuracy, has assumed an even greater importance in the counter insurgency operations in Vietnam. Military communications, electronic navigation, inertial navigation, target location and electronic bombing guidance require survey control to relate their activities to a common geographic reference system throughout the whole area of operations. Military construction a host of civilian-orientated functions important to nation building, and local engineering are highly dependent upon precise survey control.
3. The attached map shows the location of survey marks in Phuoc Tuy Province. On the back of the map descriptions of the various types of marks are printed.
4. The procedure for protecting the survey marks is to be:
  - a. Prior to starting works consult the attached map to see if a survey mark is in the area.
  - b. If there is a survey mark in the area, contact A Sect 1 Topo Svy Tp (EBONY 84) for its precise location.
  - c. If the survey mark is found and its removal is necessary contact A Sect 1 Topo Svy Tp.
  - d. If a monument is found and its removal is not necessary take adequate steps to ensure that it is not physically displaced from its original position.

Annex D  
Op Report No 47

PHOTO SCALE IN THOUS	% SIDE OVERLAP REQD DIST BETWEEN FLIGHT LINES IN METRES				PHOTO SCALE IN THOUS	% SIDE OVERLAP REQD DIST BETWEEN FLIGHT LINES IN METRES			
	10	15	20	25		10	15	20	25
4	450	425	400	375	18	2070	1955	1840	1725
5	567	536	504	472	19	2178	2057	1936	1815
6	684	646	608	570	20	2286	2159	2032	1905
7	801	756	712	668	21	2412	2278	2144	2010
8	918	867	816	765	22	2520	2380	2240	2100
9	1026	969	912	855	23	2646	2500	2352	2205
10	1143	1080	1016	952	24	2754	2600	2448	2295
11	1260	1190	1120	1050	25	2862	2703	2544	2385
12	1368	1292	1216	1140	26	2988	2822	2656	2490
13	1485	1402	1320	1238	27	3096	2924	2752	2580
14	1602	1513	1424	1335	28	3213	3034	2856	2678
15	1710	1615	1520	1425	29	3330	3145	2960	2775
16	1836	1734	1632	1530	30	3447	3255	3065	2872
17	1944	1836	1728	1620					

# INTERVALOMETER GRAPH



# INTERVALOMETER GRAPH

F24 CAMERA

5"x5" PRINT

60% OVERLAP

f=5'

