

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

Detachment, 1 Topographical  
Survey Troop

**Item number: 5/1/53**

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

Operational Report no. 52

[photocopy]

[1-31 Aug 1970]



CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

VIETNAM

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

3 Sep 70

Distribution below:

OPERATIONAL REPORT NO 52  
Covering period 1 - 31 Aug 70

PART 1 - G MATTERS

GENERAL

1. a. The Unit remained in 1 ATF base.
- b. One draughtsman was deployed forward with HQ 1 ATF, Main, for a period of one week.
- c. The unit was visited by a group of eight SVN officers from units in PHUOC TUY on a familiarization tour of 1 ATF operations.

SURVEY SECTION

2. a. Field Work

- (1) The field work associated with the Vung Tau Section of the Vung Tau - Baria water system was completed. Computation and records are in progress.
- (2) Beacons were established on ATF 12 and Cape St Jaques.
- (3) Angular and distance observations were carried out around the Nui Dat feature to provide checked co-ords of PCPs on the stereo models of the Nui Dat 1:10,000 map.

b. Compilation

Plotting was attempted on the stereotape models round Nui Dat for the Nui Dat (1:10,000) Special. The stereotapes were found to be US and work was stopped until new stereotapes were received from Australia. Plotting of these models will recommence shortly.

*The map scale is 1:10,000.*

c. Records

The record system and photo library were maintained.

d. F24 Photography

- (1) Photography at 1:25,000 was flown of land clearing updating of the 1:100,000 reprostat, a total of six runs were flown.
- (2) Photography at 1:5,000 of Ong Trinh was flown for the planned revision of the Ong Trinh sketch map.

*In an emergency  
have we lost all skill  
to plot from stereotapes  
by old methods - even though  
perhaps not so  
good as to sight  
better than nothing  
as indicated above*

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL

2.

d. The breakdown of man hours is shown below:

<u>Task</u>	<u>% of Time</u>
Records	20
Svy Obs & Comps	55
Erection of Beacons	10
Map Compilation	15

CARTOGRAPHIC SECTION

3. a. Map Overlays

(1) The following overlays are continuously updated:

- (a) topographic;
- (b) mine;
- (c) en installations.

b. Charts

9 miscellaneous charts were drawn.

c. Compilation

(1) A Vietnamese edition of new civil access boundaries was completed. Repromat for civil access areas at 1:100,000 was completed for the 1 ATF Special Overprint, Edition 6.

(2) Revision of the Nui Dat 1:10,000 was commenced, initial compilation being completed for approximately 75% of the map area.

(3) Binh Ba, Edition 3 at 1:5,000 was produced.

(4) Repromat for Sheet 2 of the 1 ATF Special Overprint was revised for Edition 6.

(5) One plan was produced for Det AFV Pro investigation.

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

<u>Task</u>	<u>% of Time</u>
Updating Overlays	5
Compile New Overlays	30
Charts	15
Nui Dat Compilation	50

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL

3.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SECTION

4. a. 35mm film was processed for the following units:

B Sqn 3 Cav Regt  
547 Sig Tp  
Div Int  
2 F.A.R  
A Sqn 1 Armd Regt  
Air Int  
198 Wks Sect  
4 Fd Regt

- b. Photographic support was provided for one investigation.  
c. 873 prints were produced from the enlarger and 226 bromide contacts were produced.  
d. The breakdown of man hours is shown below:

<u>Task</u>	<u>% of Time</u>
Taking aerial photos & processing	15
Support of Survey Section	35
Support of Carto Section	30
Support of other units, accidents etc	20

REPRODUCTION SECTION

5. a. Operational Tasks

- (1) Reserve map stocks were overprinted.  
(2) Six Annexes for Op Instructions were produced for HQ 1 ATF.

- b. Mapping Tasks

The following were overprinted for stock:

- (1) Topo Corrections at 1:50,000  
(2) Civil Access at 1:50,000  
(3) Edition 6 of 1 ATF Special Overprint at 1:100,000 (Annex B).  
(4) Binh Ba (Special) at 1:5,000 (Annex C).

- c. 10,006 impressions were pulled during the month. The average run was 200.

- d. The dyeline room continues to be used by other units.

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL

4.

MAP DISTRIBUTION

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

<u>Map Series</u>	<u>Scale</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
I8020 (Picto)	1:25,000	644
L8015	1:25,000	6,508
L7014	1:50,000	3,596
L607	1: 30,000	587
JOG A	1:250,000	23
Miscellaneous		13
Specials	1:5,000	79
	1:10,00	18
	1:12,500	17

TOTAL FOR MONTH 11, 485

- b. 8 mosaics were issued.  
c. 2 dyelines of sketchmaps were issued.

CIVIL AFFAIRS

7. Survey support was provided for the Vung Tau water supply. (Para 2 a. refers).

PART 2 - A MATTERS

NOMINAL ROLL

8. See Annex A.
9. The following members departed for Australia on the dates shown:
- |       |                    |           |
|-------|--------------------|-----------|
| 55376 | Cpl L.A. PATTERSON | 27 Aug 70 |
| 39092 | Cpl I.R. CAMPBELL  | 13 Aug 70 |
10. The following are due for RTA on the dates shown:
- |    |         |         |                   |           |
|----|---------|---------|-------------------|-----------|
| a. | SEPT 70 | Nil     |                   |           |
| b. | OCT 70  | 54378   | Cpl B E PARKER    | 8 Oct 70  |
|    |         | 39748   | Spr G S DOWD      | 8 Oct 70  |
|    |         | 1201787 | Spr D S McALLAN   | 15 Oct 70 |
|    |         | 3411521 | LCpl G C MURRAY   | 15 Oct 70 |
|    |         | 1200512 | Cpl K J GALLAGHER | 22 Oct 70 |

CONFIDENTIAL

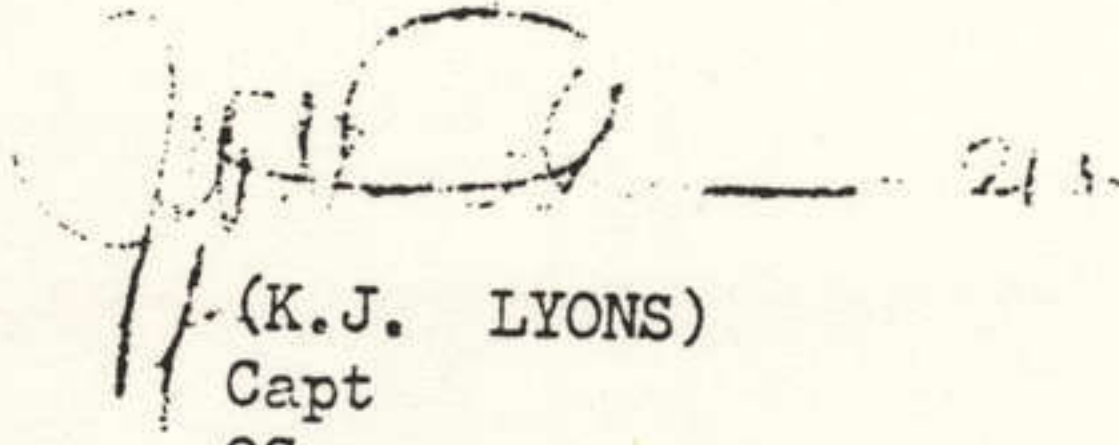


CONFIDENTIAL

5.

PART 3 - Q MATTERS

- ↓  
Replenish, instructions
11. Two new stereotopes arrived from AHQ Svy Regt as the two held have been found to require repairs beyond the scope of resources in SVN. The two defective stereotopes are to be despatched to B Sect 1 Topo Svy Tp.
12. Work was carried out to improve ventilation in the printing room following an inspection by the SMO 1 ATF.

  
(K.J. LYONS)  
Capt  
OC

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL

of map  
[of map]

ANNEXURES

- A. Nominal Roll
- B. 1 ATF Overprint (1:10,000) Special Ed 6.
- C. BINH BA (Special) 1:5,000

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, USARV	- 1
File	- 1

CONFIDENTIAL