

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Signals units

Item number: 6/2/23

Item: 104 Signal Squadron

Narrative

Annex

[1-28 Feb 1969]

Appointment 2IC 104 Sig Sqn
(OC Unit or senior staff officer)

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, starting at B.

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

ENTS

s as well as map references), establishment, equipment

orders given.

the day's fighting, including company movements.

commander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

ential importance.

officers, men and equipment.

ment captured.

employed in the time not accounted for. The type of

and to save work as much information as possible is to
ments issued and received, routine returns, etc. All
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)

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

Both original and duplicate copies are to consist of

- Cover (AF C 2119) (Adapted).
- Index as printed on cover.
- Narrative (AF C 2118) (Adapted).
- Annexes as shown in the Index.

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.

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 convenient for a particular day, starting at B.

for operations from Annex "Z". The document is to be prepared and despatched as follows:

ENTS

as well as map references), establishment, equipment, orders given, a day's fighting, including company movements, commander will report to equipment, tactics, organization

critical operations, officers, men and equipment, movement captured, employed in the time not accounted for. The type of

and to pass work as much information as possible is to be included: messages sent and received, routine returns, etc. All and the time of receipt or despatch is to be given.

as annexes, but need not give a précis of any of them.

(continued on back cover)

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 104 Sig Sqn

MONTH AND YEAR Feb 69

REFERENCE MAP VIETNAM 1:50,000 Sheets I to IV

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj K.P. MOREL

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
YS 4367	1 Feb 69		Portions of sqn remained deployed at FSPB JULIA (YS 2280) in sp 1 ATF Op GOODWOOD.	
	2 Feb 69		NTR	
	3 Feb 69		NTR	
	4 Feb 69		NTR	
	5 Feb 69		NTR	
	6 Feb 69		NTR	
	7 Feb 69		NTR	
	8 Feb 69		Capt D.J.F. NICKOLS arrived and commenced handover/takeover procedures with Capt P.A. HAMILTON.	
	9 Feb 69		NTR	
	10 Feb 69		NTR	
	11 Feb 69		Capt G.R. ARNOLD RTA. Capt P.A. HAMILTON assumed position of 2IC 104 Sig Sqn	
	12 Feb 69		Capt D.J.F. NICKOLS assumed comd 501 Sig Tp (Sigcen Line).	
	13 Feb 69		NTR	
	14 Feb 69		NTR	
	15 Feb 69		NTR	
	16 Feb 69		NTR	
	17 Feb 69		Portion of sqn deployed from FSPB JULIA (YS 2280) to FSPB KERRY (YT 1113) in sp	No Sig Instr issued

Revised Jun. 196

MONTH AND YEAR.....

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION.....

COMMANDING OFFICER.....

[illegible]

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY

FORCES

104 Sig Sqn
NUI DAT
6 Feb 69.

MONTHLY REPORT - FEB 69

Operations

1. Operation GOODWOOD concluded on 17 Feb 69 and the Forward Operations Signal Group moved with HQ 1 ATF(Main) to FSPB KERRY vicinity YT 1313 on Operation FEDERAL.
2. Additional Radio Relay support was provided by 53 Sig Bn(Corps) in the form of 12 AN/MRC-69 VF channels from FSPB KERRY to LONG BINH.
3. On 19 Feb 69 it was decided to redeploy the fwd TFMA LONG BINH Base. This necessitated further support from 53 Sig Bn who layed two, two mile runs of spiral from the Fwd TFMA to a 110 Sig Sqn Radio Relay repeater site thus providing access into the force radio relay system.
4. Operation KOROBA mounted by HQ 1 ATF(Rear) in support of provincial forces in the BARIA/LONG BIEN/DAT DO area during the TET period necessitated the deployment of the Task Force reserve of radio operators. Thus the complete Radio Tp was deployed.

Signal Centre Traffic

5. 1 ATF Sigcen (AUSTCAN NUI DAT)
 - a. Signals In - 8583
Out - 3488
Total - 12071.
 - b. Despatches In - 11938
Out - 10376 (incl Through)
Total - 22314

Switchboard

6.
 - a. EBONY daily average - 3900
 - b. ENSIGN " " - 730

New Works

7. Sigcen - The construction of a telegraph eqpt wash room and the installation of a MIGI-LIFT and associated compressor was completed with unit labour on all phases.

Comsec

8. Specific attention was given to 5 RAR radio nets on that units arrival in theatre. No serious breaches were recorded.

Personnel

9. a. Deficiencies : Hyg Dutyman
Op Radio.
- b. Surpluses : Nil.

10. Arrivals and Departures

- a. Figures for Feb 69 are:

- (1) RTA : 2
- (2) Arrivals : 13.

- b. Included in arrivals and departures for the month were:

(1) Capt D.J.F. NICKOLS who arrived on 8 Feb 69 and assumed command of Sigcen/Line Tp.

(2) Capt G.R. ARNOLD who returned to AUSTRALIA on 11 Feb 69.

(Signature)
(K.P. MOREL)
Maj
OC

CONFIDENTIAL

Copy No.....

HQ 1ATF(Rear)
NUI DAT
121730H Feb 69

SIGS 075

SIG INSTR 1/69 (OP KOROBA)
Time Zone used throughout this instr : HOTEL.

General

1. All comms facilities currently existing in the NUI DAT base are and in AO TOWNSVILLE will continue. OP KOROBA facilities will be additional.
2. 1 ATF SOIs for Feb 69, except where altered by this instr, apply.

1 ATF Rear Comd Net (VHF)

3. Ref 1 ATF SOI item 16a.
4. C Coy 4 RAR and B Coy 9 RAR are to establish comms on this net by 141200H Feb . Callsigns are as follows:
 - a. C Coy 4RAR - Callsign 63
 - b. B Coy 9RAR - Callsign 61
 - c. 1ATF LO at BARIA - Callsign 78.
5. Elements of C Coy 4RAR which will remain on the HORSESHOE feature in the event of deployment of C Coy, are to establish comms on the Rear Comd Net using Callsign 82.
6. Coy 5RAR designated as reaction force reserve is to establish comms on the Rear Comd Net by 151600H Feb 69 using Callsign 32.

Reaction Net

7. On the issue of codeword BITTER by HQ 1ATF (rear) on the Rear Comd Net, C Coy 4RAR, B Coy 9RAR, Coy 5RAR designated as reaction force reserve and 1 ATF LO BARIA will change to frequency 30-30 Mc/s.
8. Callsigns will be as follows:
 - a. HQ 1ATF - CHARLIE HOTEL 1.
 - b. C Coy 4RAR - CHARLIE HOTEL 2.
 - c. B Coy 9RAR - CHARLIE HOTEL 3.
 - d. Coy 5RAR - CHARLIE HOTEL 4.
 - e. 1ATF LO BARIA - CHARLIE HOTEL 5.
 - f. Aust Hospital BARIA - CHARLIE HOTEL 6.
9. Net diagram is att at Annex A.

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../2.

CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

PHUOC TUY Sector Net

10. C Coy 4RAR and B Coy 9RAR are to estb comms on this net by 141200H Feb 69.

11. Net information is as follows:

- a. Frequency - PRI:40-05 ALT:39-70.
- b. Call word - PRI:OXFORD GRADER ALT:MALONE RACON.
- c. C Coy 4RAR Callsign 95.
- d. B Coy 9RAR Callsign 96.
- e. Coy 5RAR Callsign 97.
- f. 1ATF LO BARIA Callsign 98.
- g. Aust Hospital BARIA Callsign 5. .

12. Net diagram is att at Annex B.

Comms Security

13. Code Words:

Code Word

Meaning

BITTER

HQ 1ATF, C Coy 4RAR, B Coy 9RAR, Coy 5RAR, 1ATF LO BARIA to estb comms on frequency 30-30 Mc/s.

COURAGE

Above stations to revert to 1ATF Rear Comd Net.

[Signature]
(K.P. MOREL)

Maj
Sig O

DISTRIBUTION

List Z plus

C Coy 4RAR HORSESHOE

B Coy 9RAR NUI DAT

Coy 5 RAR NUI DAT

Sector BARIA

1ATF LO BARIA

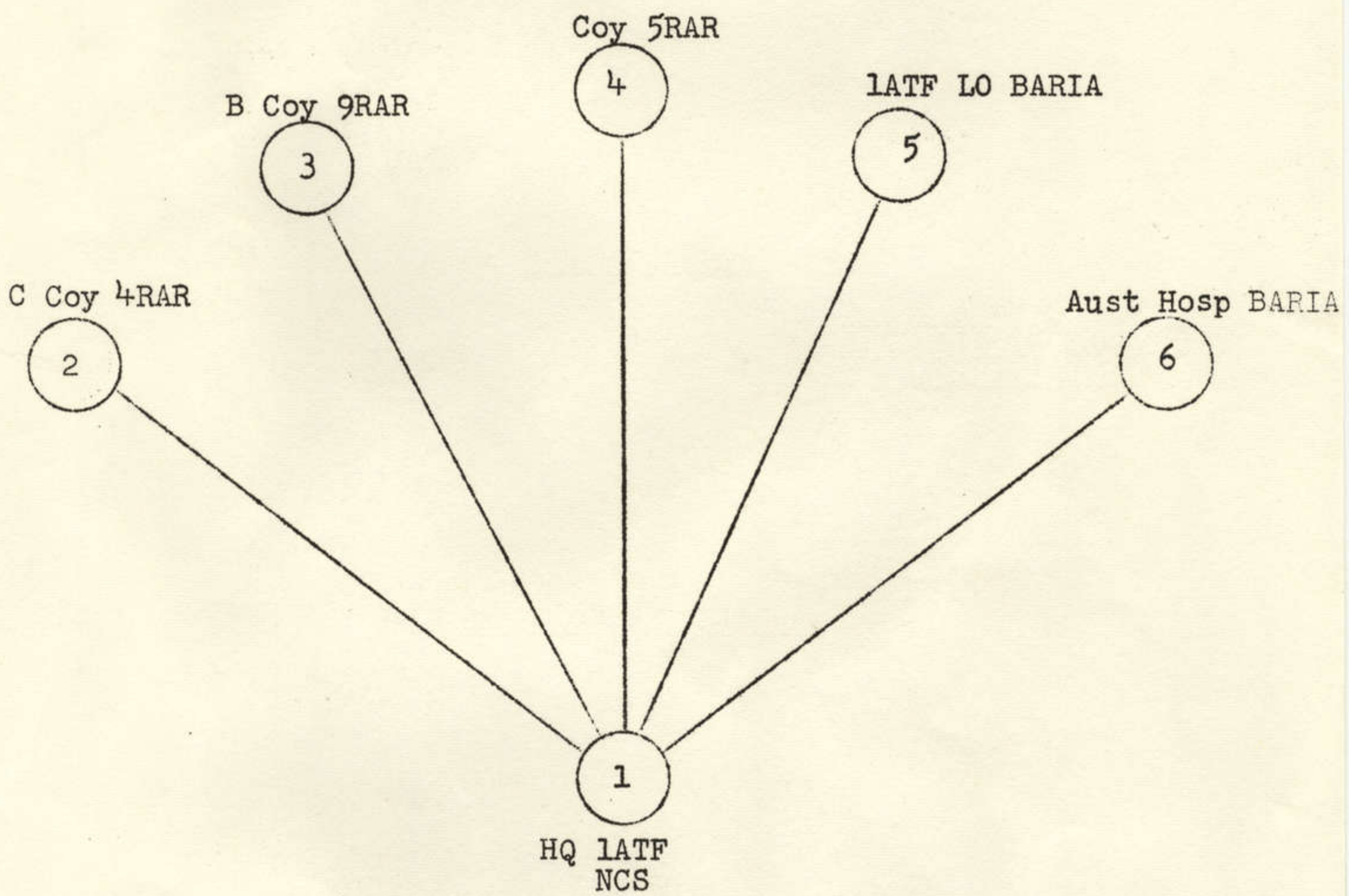
104 Sig Sqn(Main) FSPB JULIA

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Annex A to
1ATF SIG INSTR 1/69
Dated 121730H Feb 69

REACTION NET DIAGRAM



FREQ : 30-30 Mc/s

CALLWORD : CHARLIE HOTEL

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PHUOC TUY SECTOR NET

1. Frequencies PRI : 40-05 Mc/s
 ALT : 39-70 Mc/s.
2. Callwords PRI : OXFORD GRADER.
 ALT : MALONE RACON.

3. Substations

S1 BARIA	1
S2 BARIA	2
S3 BARIA	3
AUST HOSP BARIA	5
DAT DO POST	10
MEDIC	16
RF & PF BARIA	17
USAID HOUSE BARIA	18
LONG LE POST	20
LONG DIEN POST	30
XUAN MOE POST	40
LONG HAI POST	50
DUC THANH POST	60
ENGINEERS BARIA	65
MAT TEAM PHUY MY	80
MAT TEAM TAM PHUOC	82
MAT TEAM LONG HUONG	83
AUST MAT TEAM ONG TRINH	84
LONG SON POST	89
C COY 4RAR	95
B COY 9RAR	96
COY 5RAR	97
1ATF LO BARIA	98
PRU	EYE BALL
SEA-BEES BARIA	SEA BEE