

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Signals units

Item number: 6/3/53

Item: 110 Signal Squadron

Narrative

Annexes

[1-30 Nov 1971]

COVERING LETTER

Reference No. R707/4/10

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.

Received (Signature)

Major

24/1/72 Appointment OC 110 SIG SQN (OC Unit or senior staff officer)

SECRET

ORIGINAL }
DUPLICATE }

Strike out where not applicable

COMMANDERS DIARY

OF

Unit or Formation 110 SIG SQN

From 1 NOVEMBER 71 To 30 NOVEMBER 71

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

Table with 2 columns: Enclosure Number, to

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

† NIL
† RETAINED
† Despatched to

on.....

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, they are to be included in the group of annexes starting at B.

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

ANNEXES

as well as map references), establishment, equipment and personnel.

1. Orders given.
2. The day's fighting, including company movements.
3. The commander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization and personnel.

4. Casualties of potential importance.
5. Lists of officers, men and equipment.
6. Lists of equipment captured.
7. Lists of personnel employed in the time not accounted for. The type of

and to save work as much information as possible is to be included in the documents issued and received, routine returns, etc. All documents are to be dated and the time of receipt or despatch is to be given.

8. The annexes, but need not give a precis of any of them.

(continued on back cover)

AWM 95
[6/3/Nov 71]

SECRET

AF C 2118 (Adapted)

LEVEL 3

LEVEL 1

DISPOSAL

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.

AWM 95

[6/3/Nov 71]

This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF-C2119 (Adapted).

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

AF - C2118 (Adapted)
Revised Apr. 1969

COMMANDER'S DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION 110 Sig Sqn

MONTH and YEAR Nov 71

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj P.G. WILKINS

Serial	Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or Information	Reference to annex letter and/or enclosure No.
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
		1		Attended 1ATF Comds conference. Continued planning for residual det in Saigon.	
		2		OC's parade washed out by heavy rain: it will now be held Thursday. Departed on last Wobbly for Saigon, and in the evening attended with Capt Montgomery a farewell for Peter Burley of Cable & Wireless. Peter had been of considerable assistance to the Sqn over the past few months, particularly in providing information for possible alternate rear link circuits.	
		3		Conducted the Saigon Det OC's parade, and conducted recce with WO2 Johnson of the AFV Comcen and the proposed changes required to convert it to the MRS when the Vung Tau MRS is closed Mid Jan 72. Discussed our proposals with the CSO. We will be required to submit our bids for space as soon as possible. Was advised by the CSO that Col Jameson was unhappy about the location of the generator shed: he believes it to be insecure and would prefer it to be located within the Tpt compound. Discussed this with the engineers who believe they have the capability. New generators are to be installed in any case, regardless of whether the site is changed. We are reluctant to change sites	

COMMANDER'S DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION.....

MONTH and YEAR..... REFERENCE MAP..... COMMANDING OFFICER.....

Serial	Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or Information	Reference to annex letter and/or enclosure No.
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
		3 (cont)		as the present site is working well and is located between the Free World Building and HQ AATTV: it is understood that the HQ AATTV is not being relocated. Will discuss this matter further before submitting P26's. We need a firm directive to move from HQ AFV before going ahead. Returned to Vung Tau on the last Wallaby.	
		4		Continued residual det planning. Riggers commenced work on the Receive HLPAs preparatory to lowering the boom and dismantling it for RTA.	
		5		CSO visited the Squadron briefly and then went on to see 104 Sig Sqn prior to their RTA on HMAS Sydney. Attended a dining out night held at Au Petite Chalet for WO1 Peter Goodchild, who is taking his discharge shortly after RTA. He will be sorely missed both by 110 Sig Sqn and by the Corps. I believe this is the first time a senior NCO has been formally dined out in country, but have no way of verifying this belief. It was a highly successful function which concluded in the Sgts Mess.	

COMMANDER'S DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION _____

MONTH and YEAR _____ REFERENCE MAP _____ COMMANDING OFFICER _____

Serial	Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or Information	Reference to annex letter and/or enclosure No.
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
		6	"	The spirit was willing but the body was weak. Somehow managed to conduct the Sqn OC's Conference and inspect the area, but took a vow never to attend anymore farewells with a working day following.	
		7		A work parade Sunday. Arranged an afternoon photo tour for 28 pers of the Sqn and accompanied the tour myself. Also attended an admin troop lunchtime bar-b-que to farewell several members of the troop, including Cpl Pilbeam from Saigon, who has to all intents and purposes been the defacto Admin Officer for the Saigon Det for the last six months. Broke my vow of the 6th and attended a farewell dinner to Sgt Allan Organ, who has done an excellent job looking after the crypto workshop. So much for good resolutions.	
		8		Attended the 1ATF Comds Conference.	
		9		Over the past two weeks I have had a running battle with HQ 1ATF over various matters of dress. Some of the changes from 1ALSG dress regulations, particularly in respect to standdown dress and wearing of civilian clothes,	

COMMANDER'S DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION

MONTH and YEAR

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER

Serial	Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or Information	Reference to annex letter and/or enclosure No.
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
		9 (cont)		<p>I considered completely impossible to enforce in 110 Sig Sqn, where the unit operates on shift work 24 hours per day and at any one time up to 60% of the unit (over 100 persons) could be on standdown. It would be a full time task to determine which of the personnel on standdown were or were not correctly dressed under the new regulations. However I was finally informed that I would comply with the regulation whether or not they were practicable. I will of course enforce the regulations completely for members of the unit who depart the unit lines - this is no problem - but will be unable to fully comply for those members of the Sqn within unit lines as I cannot afford to divert the manpower necessary to police the regulations. It is unfortunate that these changes in dress regulations should have to be enforced so near to closure of the base. Members of the ALSG have been under the ALSG regulations for many years, and are now required, for a few months only, to change, for no apparent reason other than to comply with 1ATF units. This has caused a surprising degree of discontent among the troops for what is really a very minor matter. I and my officers and senior NCO's have had to work hard to prevent the issue developing into a major morale problem.</p>	

COMMANDER'S DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION.....

MONTH and YEAR.....

REFERENCE MAP.....

COMMANDING OFFICER.....

Serial	Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or Information	Reference to annex letter and/or enclosure No.
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
		10		The alternate rear link ccts, after a few very good days, began to give problems again. However, the progress chart of daily availability shows a very erratic but gradual climb in average availability. The link is now adequate to pass all routine traffic without delay, but cannot handle high precedence traffic without a high probability of some delay occurring.	
		11		Entered into detailed discussions via signal with HQ AUSTCAN, COMANZUKFOR SINGAPORE, 9 Sig Regt, and DCA SAM on ways to improve the S8AA and S8AB rear linkccts, and submitted counter proposals to some 9 Sig Regt proposals. 127 Sig Sqn Det arrived.	
		12 - 13		Continued proposals to 9 Sig Regt for improvement of the rear link ccts: the 9 Sig Regt proposals were found to be impossible on advice from DCA SAM. 9 Sig Regt wanted to break the ccts at VC Hill at the cablehead, to see if the incountry section or the overseas section of the cct was the major cause of the problems. This is not possible since the cct appears as one channel on a through super group at VC Hill and the Cablehead. This super group is not broken down to individual channels until TSN. Apart from that,	

COMMANDER'S DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION

MONTH and YEAR REFERENCE MAP COMMANDING OFFICER

Serial	Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or Information	Reference to annex letter and/or enclosure No.
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
		12 - 13 (cont)		" we see no point in breaking it there since we must eventually work to TSN anyway. We would much rather break the circuit at Clarke AFB and put a loop on there.: we could do a back to back with our equipment to fully prove the link as far as Clarke. Hopefully this would show that most of the problems lay with the tandem HF links on the other side of Clarke. We would then have a strong lever to justify permanent break of the circuit at Singapore, with normal tape relay there, to avoid the problem of tandem HF links. We await replies from 9 Sig Regt and the HQ AUSTCAN on our proposals.	
		14		Sunday. A work party sunday.	
		15 - 16		To Saigon to attend planning conference for residual force. Obtained conference agreement to an increase in the residual force sig det byone Tech Elec and one Engr Fitter, approval not to move the generator shed as had been proposed by HQ AFV, and confirmation of the area available to the Sig Det for the Comcen and workshop areas. Also assisted the CSO in writing the Comms Annex to the Residual Force Staff Instruction.	

COMMANDER'S DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION.....

MONTH and YEAR..... REFERENCE MAP..... COMMANDING OFFICER.....

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(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
		17 - 18		Conducted planning discussions on the re-arrangement of the residual force det layout base on the new area allocation, gave the go-ahead to WO Johnson to continue planning and installation drawings based on his revised layout. Prepared for tests on S8AA and S8AB.	
		19-20-21		Commenced testing the S8AA. Initially result very promising with a loop on at Clarke - low distortion, low rate of hits, and no problems. This continued throughout the 24 hours test on 19th for a 100% availability and ZBZ printing throughout. On 20th commenced testing the S8AB as well as the S8AA. With a loop placed on the S8AA at Singapore instead of Clarke the difference was quite conclusive - a generous 16% availability with frequent corruptions. The S8AB gave comparable performance to the looped S8AA, but with better distortion and availability as would be expected since it only represented one half of the equivalent of the S8AA. On 21st conclusively completed testing on the S8AA by alternating the loop between Singapore and Clarke. The circuit dramatically improved with the loop	

COMMANDER'S DIARY NARRATIVE

UNIT/FORMATION _____

MONTH and YEAR _____ REFERENCE MAP _____ COMMANDING OFFICER _____

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(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
		19-20-21 (cont)		at Clarke, thus confirming the results of the 19th. It is definite that the Clarke-Singapore HF link is almost exclusively the cause of poor performance of the circuit between Vung Tau and Singapore. Traffic tests of the S8AB on the 21st were inconclusive due to incomplete liaison between Singapore and Melbourne which meant that Melbourne could not send traffic for Vietnam through Singapore, so the circuit was only tested one way - Vung Tau Singapore - Melbourne. The test is to be repeated when Melbourne and Singapore can agree on procedures. On the 20th we took time out for the officers to play the Senoir NCO's Volleyball. The Senoir NCO's had a full strength team and were out to avenge the previous series which the officers won 3 - 0. This time they did a little better, and lost 2 - 1.	
		22		Went to Long Binh with the QM and WO Dayman of the Project Packing Team to see the CARA organisation. We spoke to Col Adams CO 160 Sig Gp and he has agreed that CARA can assist us during mid to late Dec 71 to pack up the TX RX and SCO area. Maj Cleveland and Maj Wild are going to try and get down here on Friday to do the site survey to see what materials are required.	

COMMANDER'S DIARY NARRATIVE

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(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
		23	"	Conducted a group conference on piquets and duties - with the reduction in strength coming up in Dec, we will find it a real problem to maintain adequate security and hygiene. Decided we would have to put L/Cpls and Cpls on piquets, put all Sgts on as duty Sgt, and combine the duty ops offr and duty admin offr duties into one, to be done by the officers and designated senior NCO's. Also split the piquet - 3 ^{each} from Op and Tech Tp, 2 from 104 Sig Sqn Det and one from 547 Sig Tp each night. This will be OK up to 8 Dec, but then 104 and 547 go, so we will really have a problem. We had tried to get extra hygiene dutymen (civilians) on several previous occasions, but without success. I spoke to the DAQMG and pointed out the problems - he agreed to consider a further request and considered we would almost certainly be able to get them. This will help considerably,	
		24		Waiting for answer from D Sigs and 9 Sig Regt - there has been a deathly silence from them since we sent the result of the tests. While waiting, passed the time away with some minor crime - as judge and jury of course - not as a participant.	

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(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
		25		Received a signal from 9 Sig Regt. They are still not convinced that the link Clarke - Vung Tau is OK: don't know what more evidence they want. They confirmed also that they only have one transmitter on the Clarke Singapore link - and have trouble with QSY's mainly because of slow reaction from Clarke. Wish they could go dual - that would give us an extra 2 or 3 hours availability per day as a minimum. They also confirmed having all 16 channels of the FGC61A active although only 8 are passing traffic. This reduces the effective power per channel but they say they cant do it any other way - their techs cannot be very experienced yet with the 61A. Will have Capt Davies discuss with them over the Engineering link to see if our methods are applicable to them.	
		26 - 28		Visited by Maj WILD and Maj CLEVELAND from CARA, the 1(US) Sig Bde recovery and packing agency. They brought two technicians with them, and together with our 127 Sig Sqn team and Sqn technicians, evolved a plan for the packaging after the TX station is closed on 16 Dec 71. All items for packing were sighted and stores lists for packaging materials prepared. Attended a concert party put on by the Maori's of 4RAR on Sunday afternoon: it was excellent	

COMMANDER'S DIARY NARRATIVE

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MONTH and YEAR..... REFERENCE MAP..... COMMANDING OFFICER.....

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(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
		26 - 28	"	entertainment and the applause nearly demolished the Kevin Wheatley Stadium.	
		(cont)			
		29		Visited by the CSO for the day. Discussed communications problems - mainly the rear link. Showed him the results of the tests which conclusively show that the link Singapore - Manila is the weak link. Received confirmation at last from Singapore that they now believe this too, and are arranging for Capt Beckett (the CSE) to visit Manila and Clarke AFB as soon as possible. The circuit from Singapore to Melbourne appears quite good and there should now be no need to manually relay in Singapore. Also had advice from the CSO of a contradictory signal (to AFV only) which said that Maj Rooney of 127 Sig Sqn Singapore would be visiting Manila, not Capt Beckett. This was all resolved on receipt of a further signal on the Staff net, which confirmed that Maj Rooney was arriving on 2 Dec and would be in Saigon for a day or two before moving on to Manila. I and the Ops offr Capt Davies will meet him and bring him down to see the Vung Tau installations if there is time.	
		30		A routine day but a hectic night. The Sandbaggers (OR's Club) held a RTA night	

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(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
		30 (cont)		which went off very well, but after it was over someone fired several flares from the area of the club directly at the Provost Lines, and also let off a coloured smoke bomb inside the club, creating quite a mess. The flares fired at the Provost lines very nearly caused serious damage: one flare landed on top of a hut, another only a few yards from a tent occupied by 5 sleeping persons. I immediately ordered the club closed for 5 days and all local leave stopped for 3 days, with the provision that the local leave restriction would be lifted as soon as the persons responsible for the incident came forward and confessed. A member of the Squadron duly came forward shortly after I departed for Saigon, and the local leave restriction was lifted.	

RESTRICTED

Camp Diary

R723/1/6

110 Sig Sqn
AFPO 3
GPO SYDNEY NSW 2890

9 Dec 71

CSO HQ AFV (8)

110 SIG SQN MONTHLY REPORT : NOV 71

Reference: A. Maps Special Use, SE Asia, 1 : 100,000, Series L607, Sheet 6430.

GENERAL

1. November was a consolidation month but the Squadron was a hive of activity nevertheless. Activity was concentrated upon preparation and packing of equipment for RTA, but a great deal of effort also went into withdrawal planning and exhaustive testing of the new rear link circuits.
2. Withdrawal planning included commencement of the modifications to the Saigon Comcen in preparation for closing of the Vung Tau MRS, and coordinating arrangements with CARA for the dismantling and packing of the Transmitting station, Receivers and SCO's areas, which is to be completed before Christmas. Planning reached an advanced stage during a visit by the Site Survey Team of the CARA agency of 1(US) Sig Bde during the period 26-28 Nov, and arrangements will be completed by 10 Dec 71.
3. Tests of the new rear link have now clearly defined the problem areas, and it is expected that the direct HF link can close on schedule on 16 Dec 71. Those members of the Squadron about to start taking their "happy pills" may now do so without fear of a repeat performance.

General Activities

4. Highlights of the month were:
 - a. The exhaustive testing of the S8AA and S8AB circuits.
 - b. Arrival of Det 127 Sig Sqn ex Singapore.
 - c. Completion of the attachment of Capt R. Munro RNZ Sigs.
 - d. Visits to and from CARA personnel and 160th (US) Signal Gp.
 - e. Visit to 1 (US) Sig Bde by Ops Offr.
 - f. Communication with HMAS Sydney.
 - g. Commencement of the Saigon MRS installation and transfer of the AFV "A" circuit from System 101 to US Bearer circuit X274.
 - h. Approval to close the always defunct Embassy RR link and deinstallation of the equipment.
 - i. Opening of the RA Sigs Vietnam Memorial Fund.

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- j. Commencement of the handover/takeover for Admin Officer duties. Capt R.W. Semple is replacing Capt R.W. Smith, who will RTA on 9 Dec 71.
- k. Cross posting of Lt M.J. Castle from 104 Sig Sqn to Deployment Troop 6 Nov 71.
- l. RTA of Lt L. O'Neill 25 Nov 71 and takeover of Deployment Tp by Lt Castle.
- m. Detachment of Lt M.J. Castle to HQ AFV for one week to perform the duties of SO(Sigs) 3 during the absence of Capt Brown on R&R.
- n. RTA of SPS and unit stores for J42. One shelter and 3 BMSS containers were dispatched during the month and a further 3 shelters and 3 BMSS's are expected to be put aboard J42.
- o. Board of Survey action commenced for the old faithful E513 transmitters, followed closely by a protest strike by the BLUE transmitter. The strike is extending into its third day, and it is hoped that the YELLOW and RED transmitters remain as scabs and do not join the union.
- p. A ten minute outage on Systems 101 and 104 due to a power failure on VC Hill (the US tactical power system). The need to mention such a short outage highlights the reliability of the RR system.
- q. The CSO is getting short. He is now PPCOD. In appreciation of his loyalty, devotion and unflagging support to 110 Sig Sqn (we here had heaps of praise but not one word of criticism), I am instructing my staff to destroy those incriminating negatives, but not before the 24th Dec.

TAPE RELAY TRAFFIC

Traffic Figures and Traffic Analysis

- 5. General. The CSO has qualified for a non-corps posting by predicting correctly a decrease in traffic for the third consecutive month. Total traffic is now less than half of the peak loadings experienced during May/June 71, and is continuing to decrease rapidly.
- 6. Total traffic figures for the month were:
 - a. MRS - 63,200
 - b. HQ AFV - 13,300
 - c. 1 ATF - 9,200

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7. MRS Traffic Summary. Annex A.

8. Comparison with previous months figures:

<u>Circuit</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
a. From Melb	6.2%	
b. To Melb	14.5%	
c. From AFV		4.4%
d. To AFV		15.4%
e. From ATF	negligible change	
f. To ATF	negligible change	
g. From Long Binh		20.3%
h. To Long Binh		13.4%
i. From OSU		4.1%
j. To OSU		9.5%

9. Rerun Summary. Annex B.

10. Long Term Trends. Annex C.

11. Traffic Precedence Breakup! Annex D.

12. Traffic Analysis

a. Service Rate: This has increased slightly because of greater reliance on ccts S8AA and S8AB for Melbourne traffic.

b. Volume of Traffic: The total volume of traffic handled by MRS decreased by 6 percent.

c. Melb Traffic: This had a slight increase possibly due to extra engineering signals and reruns.

13. Torn Tape Relay on S8AB at Singapore. The ability of OCG Singapore to accept torn tape relay of the Melb-SVN traffic was put to the test on two weekends during the month (See separate report). The results show that this is feasible however the time delays in high precedence messages is unacceptable.

OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

1 ATF Switchboard (EMU)

14. Speed of response has deteriorated slightly since RTA of operators has forced reduced manning of the board, but it is still adequate provided subscribers have a little patience. It is hoped that the call rate will soon drop sufficiently to restore the response time to normal.

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15. A great deal of trouble has been experienced over the past few weeks with faulty patchcords. Despite daily checking several faults per day are being experienced. The original cords supplied with the board are good: some of them are still in service, but the life expectancy of the replacement cords appears to be about a week. Sufficient stocks of cords are held to see out the time until the changeover to the SB86 some time mid to late January.

SDS/ADS

16. 1 ATF
- a. SDS out 3361
 - b. SDS in 379
 - c. ADS bags 30
 - d. Safehand Bags 21
 - e. Vehicle Mileage 859.
17. HQ AFV. Vehicle Mileage 670.

Radio

18. HQ AFV Emergency Net. Weekly tests were carried out. Comms were good on all days except 16 and 23 Nov 71, when no contact was made. the antenna at the Vinh Loi was burned out when the main power board caught fire. The PRC 25 was relocated on the ground floor, so that the GRA 39 is no longer required. No other faults occurred during the month.
19. Radio Australia. Comms deteriorated during the period 16-25 Nov due to ionospheric disturbances. This monitoring service will soon have to be abandoned as the Squadron reduces in strength and other tasks take priority. It is expected it will have to cease mid January 72.
20. HMAS Jeparit. Contact made on 9 Nov 71 off Timor, and continued until 13 Nov off Townsville. Contact reestablished 16 Nov off Brisbane and again 28-29 Nov off Townsville and Cairns.
21. HMAS Sydney. Contact maintained 5-8 Nov, not required again until 27 Nov. Due to failure of an EF1 and then the BLUE transmitter comms were lost on 28-30 Nov.
22. OSU. No tests were carried out as the SCO's were occupied on other tasks. It is expected that the link will be dismantled early in Dec as it is no longer required.

Communication Centres

23. 1 ATF Comcen. Some troubles due to some deteriorating wiring. Planning for virtual rebuild of the comcen is completed and it is expected to be completely installed and tested by 6 Dec. Changes include rewiring, replacing of metal tables by expendable wooden benches, and replacement of all fixed station equipment by field equipment. The changes will allow operation of the comcen up until the day the Sydney arrives. However certain administrative requirements of 1 ATF for disposal of living accomodation furnitue and barrack room equipment may mean that the comcen must close 1 to 2 days earlier than operationally necessary so that the administrative tasks can be completed.

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24. HQ AFV Comcen. Two circuits have been maintained to the MRS although the traffic levels do not really warrant it. However as one circuit is now routed via a US bearer, 24 hour per day communications are virtually guaranteed. The B circuit will be closed when the MRS closes on 19 Jan 72.

25. MRS Vung Tau. Surplus send, receive and monitor consoles were removed, and metal printer tables were replaced by expendable wooden ones prefabricated in the Sqn Carpenter's Shop.

ENGINEERING

General

26. Direct HF Rear Link

a. Availability remained high despite ionospheric disturbances in the latter half of the month which reduced the outstanding availability to just mere excellent. The availability during the first half of the month was the highest achieved this year, and taking into account the revised methods of compiling statistics, probably the highest ever.

b. The engineering channel of the direct HF link will be denied to the SCO's for use in engineering the S8AA circuit as from 1 Dec 71. This will enable them to prepare for the eventual closure of the HF link.

c. The link is scheduled for closure 16 Dec 71. As detailed coordination for deinstallation and packing has now been completed with 1 (US) Sig Bde CARA team, any change in this date would be most inconvenient at this stage.

d. Transmitters. As a result of technical inspections of the transmitters by Det 127 Sig Sqn, it was determined that the E513's would not survive a removal without extensive factory rebuild. Since they are not eligible for disturbance allowance (which is inadequate anyway), approval for board of survey action to write them off in theatre was sought and obtained. The BLUE transmitter promptly went on strike in protest, thus disrupting HMAS Sydney comms yet again. Availability figures were:

RED	91.2%
BLUE	88.3%
YELLOW	97.1%

27. New Rear Link

a. Tests on S8AA and S8AB. Exhaustive tests were carried out on the two circuits during the month. The conclusion is that the problem area lies between Clarke Air Base and Singapore. Annex E details all the tests carried out.

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b. Rear Link (Melb A - S8AA). The improvement in the circuit availability of S8AA continued during the first week of Nov reaching a peak of 84% on 7 Nov. Since then the availability has declined. This could be caused by the numerous tests carried out. The US technical controllers tend to "switch off" once the circuit is only passing test traffic. It is intended to continue badgering Saigon TCG in Dec to return to the high availability figures.

c. Singapore Engineering Link S8AB. Apart from the testing described in Annex E, this circuit has been used for engineering to Singapore.

d. Despite the fluctuating availability the circuit is adequate to handle the total traffic, although some delays to messages will be inevitable. However closure of the direct HF link should not be delayed, since it will disrupt the RTA arrangements of some 50 members of the Squadron, and greatly inconvenience 1 (US) Sig Bde, who have managed to direct their extremely overworked resources to help us during the period 10-24 Dec despite having some 13 priority de-installation and packing tasks of their own outstanding at this time.

28.

HMAS Sydney.

a. Visit 6 Nov. On 6 Nov, HMAS Sydney arrived at Vung Tau. The communications from 110 Sig Sqn to the Sydney during the voyage up were considered to be the best yet by the Sydney's Radio Officer. The Sydney was worked by two means:

- (1) 5KW HF transmission RTT and HLPAs while she was far out to sea.
- (2) 100W HF transmissions voice/CW while in close.

b. The Ops Officer flew out to the Sydney by helicopter and was given a tour of the communications facilities on board. A reciprocal arrangement was organised whereby the Radio Officer and two Petty Officer technicians visited 110 Sig Sqn on the afternoon of the 6th Nov. A greater understanding of the problems involved in communicating between Vung Tau and the Sydney was realised.

c. To assist on the voyage back to Australia, a TH5/TG (Terminal Telegraph) was loaned to the Sydney to provide narrow shift keying (85 HERTZ). The RAN FSK works on 850 HERTZ. This was connected to their transmitter and promptly blew all the fuses. 104 Sig Sqn then came to the rescue and the narrow shift keying was carried out successfully until the Sydney was out of range of the GRC 106 (100W). This allows 110 Sig Sqn to use secure RTT working to the Sydney (instead of voice/CW unsecure as on the way up) using the GRC 106. After the closure of the HF link, the GRC 106 will be the only means of communicating direct to the Sydney for the final voyage.

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d. On the retrun voyage to Vung Tau (currently in progress), the Sydney has been worked wide shift keying (850 HERTZ) using high powered transmitters. The first schedule was worked to the Whitsunday Passage off the coast of Queensland on 26 Nov. As yet the Sydney is out of range of the GRC 106. It is intended to use secure narrow shift keying RTT on the GRC 106 while the Sydney is within range.

System Control

29. SVN Circuits. In country trunking circuits performed well during Nov. The only problems were:

a. System 101 and 104 Siemens FM 24/400 situated in the Page Training Room located in ICS Site 11 (VC Hill). The power to operate these systems is provided by 331st Sig Coy tactical power. The power for the building airconditioning is provided by PA and E who have a bad habit of turning off the power. System 104 uses TH22/TG to convert FSK tones to DC to feed into the US ICS system. Once the airconditioning goes, the heat generated by the TH22/TGs makes the FM12/400 drop out of alignment. Timely warnings by the Page Technicians of a power failure helps to keep the systems working satisfactorily.

b. Circuit 1H75 (Vung Tau to Bien Hoa Comcen) was out for considerable periods of time during the month. At the time of writing it has been out for four consecutive days and is likely to be out for 2 more, with a fault on a Vietnamese maintained section of cable. This circuit goes over the US/SVN systems and we are helpless to fault find and restore except to keep pestering the US Tech Controllers at the nearest reporting station. This circuit has a restoration priority of 3A which is reasonably low. However once the MRS closes on 19 Jan at Vung Tau, communications between Vung Tau and Saigon will rely solely on US/SVN circuits similar to 1H75. Outages can be anticipated.

30. Embassy RR Circuit. Permission was received during Nov to deactivate the Embassy - FWMAF building RR Link. This link has never worked satisfactorily since its inception. It is to be replaced by a AN/PRC 25 set RTT link using a TH5/TG terminal in early December.

31. Liaison Visit to Long Binh. On 8/9 Nov, the Ops Officer visited the Russell Relay and USARV Telecommunications Centre (TCC). 110 Sig Sqn alternate rear link circuit is routed through Long Binh. Circuit XF6W was reterminated on 10 Nov from Russell Relay (which closed) to USARV TCC.

32. Systems 101 and 104. Both failed due to a power failure on VC Hill. The outage was not long enough to cause concern. System 104 failed for approx 1 hour due to overheating when the power to the airconditioning remained off for two days. System 101 was not affected.

33. AFV A. AFV A has been transferred from Ch 5 1851A to an American Cable X724 and is proving reliable.

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34. Call Home. A failure in a terminating unit in the Siemens and a line fault at PTT interrupted this service for two nights during the month, otherwise no problems.

Withdrawal Plans

35. Det 127 Sig Sqn. On 11 Nov, four senior NCO's from Det 127 Sig Sqn Singapore arrived to assist 110 Sig Sqn in their withdrawal plans. Their arrival is welcomed because it take a load off the shoulders of the Sqn who can continue their normal communications tasks with only minimal inconvenience caused by the withdrawal.

36. CARA. During Nov, a visit was paid by the OC, QM and the Det Comd of Det 127 Sig Sqn to the Communications Assets Recovery Agency Long Binh. As a result, the OC and two of his technicians paid a visit to 110 Sig Sqn to assess the task of deinstalling our telecommunications equipment in late Dec. The assistance expected from CARA will be a great boon as well as allowing 127 Sig Sqn and 110 Sig Sqn to see the techniques of deinstallation and packing of these equipments. The 1 ALSG Commander has expressed great interest in seeing the techniques and the CARA team in action.

37. Saigon MRS Installation, This has been proceeding smoothly under the control of WO2 A. Johnson with the advice and assistance of WO2 R. Hicks of Det 127 Sig Sqn. The crypto equipment has been despatched from Vung Tau to Saigon. During the first week of Dec, it is intended to take a truckload of installation stores from Vung Tau to Saigon.

Tech Maint Wksps

38. Saigon.

a. The HQ AAAG installation is progressing satisfactorily. Prefab panels are under construction, adaptors for installation of the GRC 106 and PRC 25 RTT links have been completed, and stores are arriving on schedule.

b. Tape Library. All equipments are now repaired. The work load is increasing with tapes being sent from Vung Tau for recording. 53 tapes and 34 cassettes were recorded for customers.

39. Vung Tau Tech Maint

a. During the month the workload on the workshop has decreased quite considerably due to the close of Deployment Tp.

b. 17 jobs were accepted with 18 completed. 115 AAF F114's have been compiled, mainly for equipment being RTA'd. The workshop is being stripped of its unauthorised spares and rubbish in preparation for using half of the workshop as a packaging area for equipments on RTA.

c. The workshop, with the assistance of Mr DUNG, is preparing to replace all metal teletype tables with wooden benches. Three have been replaced in the MRS and early in Dec it is hoped to complete the change in 1 ATF comcen.

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40. Vung Tau Telegraph Workshop. Sgt Lewis moved to Saigon to assist WO2 A. Johnson in the installation of the new MRS. The workshop has continued to operate efficiently under LCpl Wade.

Line and Antenna

41. Line. The line section was kept well occupied during the month. As units diminish in size the telephones in the units require moving. The line store has been cleaned out and a large quantity of American origin items disposed of. Six drums of cable have been prepared for RTA as well as a large quantity of telephones. Drums of scrap cable, usable but not worthy of RTA have been given to the ARVN School of Sigs.

42. Rigger. The rigger section continued work on the Rx HLP and have now lowered the boom and rotor. The mast will not be dismantled until 16 Dec when the No2 Rx VLP is no longer required. The rigger store has also been cleaned and the number of stores held reduced.

Deployment Troop

43. The troop spent the month bringing all eqpts up to CES and preparing eqpt for RTA. A reserve capability for deployment in an emergency has been maintained, and will continue until 10 Dec, when the MRC 69 equipment will be handed into the movement agencies for RTA. The troop will then really earn its unofficial title of "unemployment troop" - a title which they may have earned at times, but never when there was a job to be done. The troop has built up an enviable record over the years for rapid deployment and reliable communications with equipment which has long since seen better days. It is with sadness that the CSO's cancelled word of the month is **announced** as "Deployment Troop".

MANNING AND DEFENCE

44. Range Practises. No practises were held as the range was fully booked by task force units. Practises will be held in December.

45. Runs. They continue even more weakly than before now that farewell and Christmas parties are on the increase.

46. Unit Lectures. Due to the pressure of work, no unit lectures were scheduled for Nov- Dec. It is expected that lectures will recommence after Christmas.

47. Defence.

a. A practise yellow alert was held. HQ 1 ATF were obviously confused because for once they imposed the alert when the OC was in Vung Tau and not Saigon. The Admin Officer could not believe his good fortune.

b. A visit was received from G3 (Ops) 1 ATF to inspect the perimeter defences as a result of submissions made to the HQ on arrangement for sector defence after 4 RAR departs. The Squadron has a very large sector to defend, and with the rundown of personnel will find it impossible to maintain normal security arrangement and also continue to operate: Some changes to the

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system are required, or else some assistance must be provided from other units. As the Sqn will have vacant accommodation after Christmas, it is possible that the problem may be solved by introduction of non-signal corps troops into the Logan Hill area.

CIVIL AFFAIRS

48. An Phong Orphanage. The indents submitted for the electrical power reticulations were firstly mislaid by registry HQ 1 ATF, and then misdirected to Ord then 55 EWPS, before finally ending up at CE Branch HQ AFV. In the intervening period, the stores required were all returned to Australia, and consequently the indents were not approved. This was extremely disappointing to all those who had worked towards helping the orphanage over the years, as it would have been a fitting final project. Normal support continued, including:

- a. Surplus food commodities including 20 cartons of milk.
- b. Use of the unit vehicles for 4 RAR/NZ working parties at the orphanage.
- c. Donation of unserviceable deeco sections for construction of "monkey bars".
- d. Donations of quantities of U/S blankets, mosquito nets, kitchenware, and scrap timber and firewood.

49. ARVN School of Signals. Donation of a quantity of lightweight field equipment for the boy scouts, surplus line stores (not for RTA), and unserviceable field radio equipment.

50. 2/654 Signal Operations Company, Vung Tau. Donation of a quantity of unserviceable deeco sections. These sections are structurally sound but due to rust and dirt inside the sections cannot be cleaned to meet quarantine requirements for RTA.

PERSONAL ADMINISTRATION

Establishment and Posted Strength

51. Variations from establishment and positions cleared to date for INTERFUSE are shown in Annex F.

52. November was a busy month for the Administrative staff of the unit. With the attachment to the unit of Det 104 Sig Sqn with the subsequent increase in the administrative load plus the number of unit personnel due to RTA during the month, SHQ was a hive of industry.

53. Posting Orders

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a. Most of the members of the unit due for reposting have now received their posting orders. The processing of removal documentation is proceeding satisfactorily. The unit policy on removals is to submit all documentation necessary for the removal prior to the member's RTA. This includes, AAF H10's, inventories, application for MQ, and all claims.

b. Many of the personnel due for reposting have applied for a change in their posting orders. This is being actively discouraged on obvious grounds. Many personnel however have less than 12 months residual service and the applications by these personnel have been processed.

c. All positions on the Signals detachment on the Residual Force HQ have now been filled by ARA volunteers. The names have been submitted to HQ AFV and forwarded to Australia for approval.

54. RTA Bookings

a. All personnel due to RTA prior to the end of Jan 72 have now been booked. The personnel due to RTA in Feb 72 cannot be booked until the manpower requirement of the unit during this period is finally determined.

b. Dec 71 will be a busy month for the movements staff. 90 personnel from 110 Sig Sqn and Det 104 Sig Sqn are due to RTA during this period.

Movements

55. Figures are:

a.	Arriving in theatre	4
b.	Leaving theatre	31
c.	Incountry movements	36

Visitors

56. Visitors during the month included:

a.	Lt Col Mapson	CSO	29 Nov 71
b.	Maj Wilde	USARV	26-28 Nov 71
c.	Maj Cleveland	CARA	26-28 Nov 71

Attachments

57. The project team from 127 Sig Sqn Singapore arrived on 11 Nov 71 and will remain with the unit until 24 Feb 72. The team consists of:

a.	WO1 J.D. Dayman
b.	WO2 A.R. Hicks
c.	Ssgt P.A. Staples
d.	Sgt W.H. Lidster
e.	Ssgt J.S. Strandley is to join the team on 9 Dec 71.

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58. Lt M.J. Castle was detached from 110 Sig Sqn to HQ AFV for one week during the month to perform the duties of SO3 Sigs during Capt W.C. Brown's absence on R & R.

RA Sigs Vietnam Memorial Fund

59. An RA Sigs Vietnam Memorial Fund has been opened. Contributions are being made by 110 Sig Sqn, 104 Sig Sqn and 547 Sig Tp towards a suitable memorial to all RA Sigs personnel who have served in this theatre.

60. A committee is to be formed to decide on the form of the memorial which it is felt should be displayed at the School of Signals Watsonia. An approach will be made to the School when the committee is formed.

Promotions

61. The following personnel were promoted during the month:

- a. Sig PRESSWELL to LCpl 2 Nov 71
- b. Sig LIVERMORE to LCpl 2 Nov 71
- c. Sig COOK to LCpl 1 Nov 71
- d. Sig PYKE to T/Cpl 13 Nov 71 (Det 104 Sig Sqn)
- e. Sig PATCH to LCpl 13 Nov 71 (Det 104 Sig Sqn)
- f. LCpl SODERHOLM to Cpl 18 Nov 71

Q ADMINISTRATION

62. General. Nov followed on as a busy month for Q Tp with the continuation of OPERATION INTERFUSE and normal Sqn tasks including a visit by Army Audit.

63. Boards of Survey - Write/Off - CRVs. Boards of Survey, Write-off, CRV actions continued during the month. The highlights of the month were the actions concerning the boardings of the transmitters E513 and the finalising of arrangements with the CARA (Communications Assets Recovery Agency) for assistance with unit equipments and other stores for RTA.

64. Operation INTERFUSE. RTA of SPS and unit stores continued with the delivery of 1 shelter MRC/69 (Trg Aid) and 3 BMSS Containers for shipment on J42 (early Dec).

65. Progressive 100% Spotcheck. Checks continue of SPS/unit stores together with CES adjustments. Documentation for RTA of all accounts continues in accordance with various current instructions.

66. Minor Works (PA&E). Minor maint repairs to buildings, urinals, elec and other installations continued during the month.

67. Transport. Preparation of vehicles for return to ORD and RTA continued. Loans to various TF units were made in accordance with Log Ops 1 ATF instructions during the period. Three landrovers will be returned early Dec.

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68. Unit Messing. Unit messing continued at a satisfactory level, although "Tinned equivalent" rations were still evident in the daily break. Two cooks RTAed during the period with one replacement coming from the "pool". With the RTA of approx 90 rationed pers in Dec, the cook position should be satisfactory. A release of Aust Xmas parcels for the troops was received on 20 Nov 71.

69. Civilian Staff. An additional kitchen hand (casual) and two hygiene dutymen were provided to the Sqn during the month.

CONCLUSION

70. November was a vintage month for the HF rear link, incountry circuits except 1H75, and withdrawal planning, but a very rough red month for the S8AA raer link, S8AB torn tape relay, circuit 1H75, and the Embassy RR link. It was made bearable by the champagne monthly report from the CSO. His comments on the performance of the Squadron have been much appreciated (see para 4q) and his guidance and assistance will be sorely missed when he RTA's on 23 Dec 71.

P.G. Wilkins Capt
for (P.G. WILKINS)
Maj
Officer Commanding.

- Annexes
- A. MRS Traffic Summary.
 - B. Traffic Rerun Summary.
 - C. Long Term Trends.
 - D. Traffic Precedence Break-up.
 - E. Tests on S8AA and S8AB.
 - F. Establishment Variations.
 - G. Telegraph Circuit Availability Summary.

Copy to

1 ATF
Det 104 Sig Sqn
Radio Offr 1 OSU (info)

Internal

OC (2)	Saigon Det Comd
Ops Offr (3)	Comds Diary (3)
QM	File
Vung Tau Op Tp Comd	Float
Vung Tau Tech Tp Comd	Spare (2)
Deployment Tp Comd	

MAJOR RELAY STATION VUNG TAU
SUMMARY OF TRAFFIC NOVEMBER 71

ANNEX A TO
110 SIG SQN R723/1/6
DATED DEC 71

Ser	Circuit		Flash	Immediate	Priority	Routine	Total	ZFX
	In	Out						
1	Melb A *	In		1,656	2,119	2,269	6,044	259
		Out		1,658	1,825	2,103	5,586	80
2	Melb B	In		1,712	2,241	2,798	6,751	212
		Out		1,564	1,941	2,612	6,117	30
3	AFV ComcenA	In		150	1,516	1,159	2,825	38
		Out		169	1,808	1,762	3,739	
4	AFV ComcenB	In		154	1,355	1,219	2,728	38
		Out		328	2,178	1,501	4,007	2
5	Singapore	In		12	51	19	82	20
		Out		20	66	102	188	1
6	Long Binh	In	1	1,542	81	55	1,679	105
		Out		1,319	37	16	1,372	
7	1 ATF	In		224	1,767	1,536	3,527	72
		Out		377	2,355	2,970	5,702	8
8	1 OSU	In		120	1,320	509	1,949	61
		Out		528	1,460	848	2,836	1
9	HMAS Sydney	In		1	25	69	95	
		Out			11	8	19	
10	Services	In	3	746	1,971	1,696	4,416	
		Out		1,165	1,804	604	3,573	
11	Totals	In	4	6,317	12,446	11,329	30,096	805
		Out		7,128	13,485	12,526	33,139	122
12	Multi Routes	(Processed)	3147	* Note that the Melbourne A circuit is now the S8AA circuit via Singapore.				

ANNEX B TO
 110 SIG SQN R723/1/6
 DATED DEC 71

TRAFFIC RERUN SUMMARY - NOVEMBER 71

(Percentage calculated on all services)
 VUNG TAU MAJOR RELAY STATION

Ser No	Channel	As % of IN traffic		As % of OUT traffic		Remarks
		This month	Last month	This month	Last month	
1	MELB A *	14.1	12.9	30.9	33.6	
2	MELB B	13.3	11.8	19.9	15.4	
3	HQ AFV A	3.1	2.6	7.5	6.3	
4	HQ AFV B	4.6	2.4	7.0	5.4	
5	LONG BINH	9.1	8.4	3.0	2.8	
6	1 ATF	4.3	4.2	3.4	5.1	
7	1 OSU RAAF	3.6	8.3	1.2	1.1	

* Note that the Melbourne A circuit is now S8AA circuit via Singapore

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ANNEX C TO
110 SIG SQN R723/1/6
DATED DEC 71

LONG TERM TRENDS

- Notes: 1. Numbers are rounded to three significant figures.
2. There is no direct relationship between traffic and Australia - Vietnam availability.

MONTH	AUSTRALIA-VIETNAM AVAILABILITY			MRS		COMCEN		
	A%	B%	C%	SAIGON	VUNG TAU	HQ AFV	1 ATF	2 AOD
Dec 69	91.8	89.0		86,800	30,600	19,100	7,700	
Jan 70	93.1	89.4		84,800	30,600	18,400	9,700	
Feb	88.7	89.7		84,900	29,800	19,700	10,200	
Mar	80.8	80.0		93,600	32,600	20,200	10,600	
Apr	88.9	83.1		93,600	35,300	19,800	11,100	
May	92.5	87.1		93,700	35,200	19,300	10,000	
Jun	88.8	80.0		91,600	33,800	18,100	8,900	
Jul	88.8	86.0		93,200	35,900	19,000	10,900	
Aug	87.2	81.2		90,700	*	17,800	11,500	
Sep	88.0	82.0		88,800	*	17,000	11,200	
Oct	93.2	82.2		99,700	2,000	19,800	12,300	
Nov	73.0	59.0		1,400	104,300	20,600	12,100	
Dec 70	66.8	67.0		-	95,000	19,500	9,800	
Jan 71	46.8	58.3		-	92,000	18,900	9,800	
Feb	78.4	71.2		-	85,900	17,900	10,200	
Mar	75.4	41.3		-	104,900	21,900	12,000	
Apr	56.2	47.2		-	110,700	23,600	12,500	
May	49.9	61.0		-	117,800	24,400	10,900	1,900
Jun	41.3	56.2		-	109,200	23,900	7,400	5,200
Jul	56.2	58.0		-	91,000	19,300	6,700	6,600
Aug	67.4	55.8		-	79,700	18,100	6,900	4,200
Sep	66.5	46.8		-	84,800	19,300	7,100	3,100
Oct	27.4 *	85.0		-	67,600	15,000	9,200	1,000
Nov	43.0 *	84.3	62.0	-	63,200	13,300	9,200	-

* Note that the Melbourne A circuit is now the S8AA circuit via Singapore.

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ANNEX D TO
110 SIG SQN R723/1/6
DATED DEC 71

TRAFFIC PRECEDENCE BREAKUP FOR NOVEMBER 1971

Rear Link

	In	Out	Total
Flash			
Immediate	3,380	3,242	6,622
Priority	4,411	3,832	8,243
Routine	5,086	4,817	9,903
Total	12,877	11,891	24,768
ZFX	491	111	602

In Theatre

	In	Out	Total
Flash	4		4
Immediate	2,937	3,886	6,823
Priority	8,035	9,653	17,688
Routine	6,243	7,709	13,952
Total	17,219	21,248	38,467
ZFX	314	11	325

Total

	In	Out	Total
Flash	4		4
Immediate	6,317	7,128	13,445
Priority	12,446	13,485	25,931
Routine	11,329	12,526	23,855
Total	30,096	33,139	63,235
ZFX	805	122	927

TESTS ON S8AA AND S8AB

General

1. During Nov 71, exhaustive tests on circuits S8AA and S8AB were carried out by 110 Sig Sqn with the assistance of 9 ANZUK Sig Regt. These were:
 - a. Half hourly distortion readings on both circuits and graphical analysis of same.
 - b. Loop tests on at Clarke:
 - (1) Looped VTA - Clarke - VTA.
 - (2) Looped Singapore - Clarke - Singapore.
 - c. Loop tests on at Singapore:
 - (1) Looped VTA - Singapore - VTA.
 - (2) Looped - VTA - Singapore - Regen Repeater - Singapore - VTA.
 - d. Availability readings on both circuits and a graphical analysis of the results on the S8AA.
 - e. Torn tape relaying at Singapore of Melb - VTA traffic both ways.
2. A summary of these tests is given in Appendix 1.

Distortion Readings

3. These show a remarkable correlation between the figures for the S8AA and S8AB circuits. When plotted graphically this is clearly shown (Example given in Appendix 2). As the S8AB terminates in Singapore, this shows that the problem area is between Singapore and Vung Tau.

Loop Tests at Clarke

4. These show:
 - a. Circuit Vung Tau - Clarke is a good circuit (99% availability, 10% average distortion, printability ZBZ5 for test period).
 - b. Circuit Clarke to Singapore is problem area (15% average distortion, printability ZBZ5 for 16% of test period).

Loop Tests at Singapore

5. These reinforce conclusion in para 4b. (29% availability, 15% average distortion, printability ZBZ5 for 35% of test period). During tests, a loop was inserted at Clarke which confirmed low distortion and high printability on link Vung Tau - Clarke.

Availability Figures

6. Availability figures are recorded each day as per Austcan Channel Availability States for both circuits. A study was undertaken to ascertain if there was any correlation between the outage times and the time of day.

7. To do this, the outages in each 24 hour period for 19 consecutive days were plotted in a line form and then the results superimposed. Each 15 minute period of the day, a count was taken of the number of times the circuit was out. This count was then plotted graphically. Result is shown in Appendices 3 and 4. Because of the erratic nature of the graph (Appendix 4), the 15 minute counts were averaged for the hourly period. This graph is shown in Appendix 5.

8. Conclusions

a. Outages are above normal for one continuous period of the day (2000Z to 0500Z).

b. Results were only plotted for 19 consecutive days (30 Oct to 17 Nov). As such, they are inconclusive. A further study during Dec will be necessary to confirm this high outage period. The outage frequency could indicate:

- (1) Different shifts on at stations.
- (2) Bad atmospherics on HF hops.
- (3) High traffic periods.
- (4) Best period for operating the circuit.

Torn Tape Relay at Singapore

9. During two consecutive weekends, it was proposed to use Singapore as a torn tape relay centre between Vung Tau and Melbourne:

a. Weekend 20/21 Nov: Because of TI disagreements in STRAD, the tape relaying was tested in one direction only. (VTA - Singapore - Melbourne).

b. Weekend 27/28 Nov: Tape relaying was tested in both directions. A fair test was carried out with the volume of traffic approximately the anticipated volume of the residual force.

10. The tests show that the OCG Singapore is able to handle the torn tape relaying. However, it is noted:

a. Only able to test circuit on weekends because of work load during the weekdays at Singapore. During residual force communications, the availability to torn tape must be available at all times.

b. Because problem area is common to S8AA and S8AB, little is gained by going torn tape relay at Singapore. The only advantage would be when both the HF links (Singapore - Harman and Singapore - Clarke) were not available at the same time for substantial periods. The performance of the circuit Melbourne to Singapore is such that this rarely happens.

Conclusion

11. The tests carried out have shown the problem area to be between Clarke and Singapore.

12. At this stage the tests in paras 1a and 1d are to be continued. Apart from this, there is little 110 Sig Sqn can do to improve the circuit quality of circuits S8AA and S8AB.

Appendices

1. Summary of tests on circuits S8AA and S8AB Nov 71.
2. Typical Distortion Measurements.
3. Outage times on circuit S8AA.
4. Frequency of outage times in Daily Period.
5. Frequency of outage times in Daily Period (Averaged).

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SUMMARY OF TESTS ON CCTS S8AA AND S8AB

NOV 71

Appendix 1 to Annex E to Monthly Report
Nov 71

DATED 3 DEC 71

Serial	Date	CCT	Description of Test	Result (Readings averaged over periods).	Conclusions/Remarks	Reporting Signal
1	18 Nov	S8AA	Loop on at Clarke (VTA - Clarke - VTA)	Availability - 99% Printability - 90%	US/Aust system VTA - Clarke good.	Sigs 655 of 190515Z
2	20 Nov	S8AA	Loop on at SPORE with regen (VTA - Clarke - SPORE - Clarke - VTA)	Availability - 16% Printability - 18%	Problem area between SPORE and Clarke.	Sigs 663 of 210315Z
3	21 Nov	S8AA	Loop on at SPORE with regen (VTA - Clarke - SPORE - Regen - SPORE - Clarke - VTA).	Availability - 29% Printability - 35%	Improvement on Ser 2 but problem area between SPORE and Clarke. Loop at Clarke during test to confirm Serial 1.	Sigs 668 of 220745Z
4	20/21 Nov	S8AB	Torn Tape Relay at SPORE of Melb - VTA traffic.	Availability - 37% messages passed- 94 Services - 16 (17%) One way only VTA-Spore-Melb	Test inconclusive	Sigs 673 of 230730Z
5	25 Nov	S8AA	Loop on at Clarke (Spore - Clarke - Spore)	Not Known	Test Serial 1 was to have been repeated but Clarke did not place loop on VTA circuits.	Sigs 687 of 260220Z
6	26 Nov	S8AB	Loop on at Clarke (Spore - Clarke - Spore)	Not Known		
7	27/28 Nov	S8AB	Torn Tape Relay at Spore of Melb - VTA traffic	Availability - 65% Msgs passed - 291 Services - 46 (15%) Two way test	Test shows capability of Spore to relay but time clearances for high precedence messages cannot be met.	Sigs 698 of 290900Z

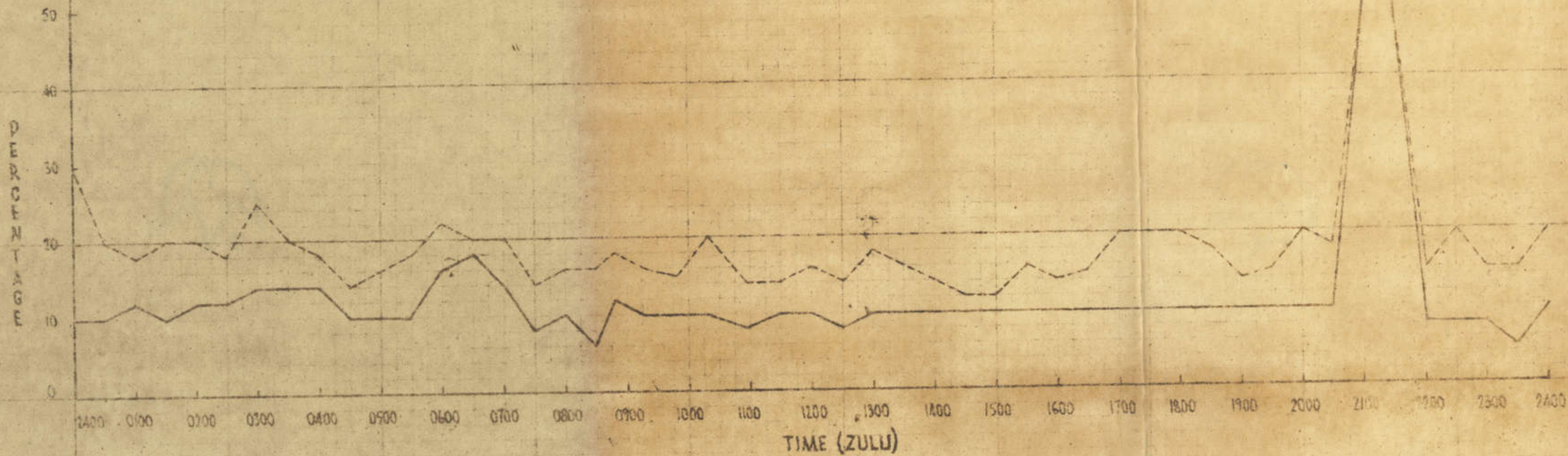
RESTRICTED

DISTORTION MEASUREMENTS 16 NOV 71

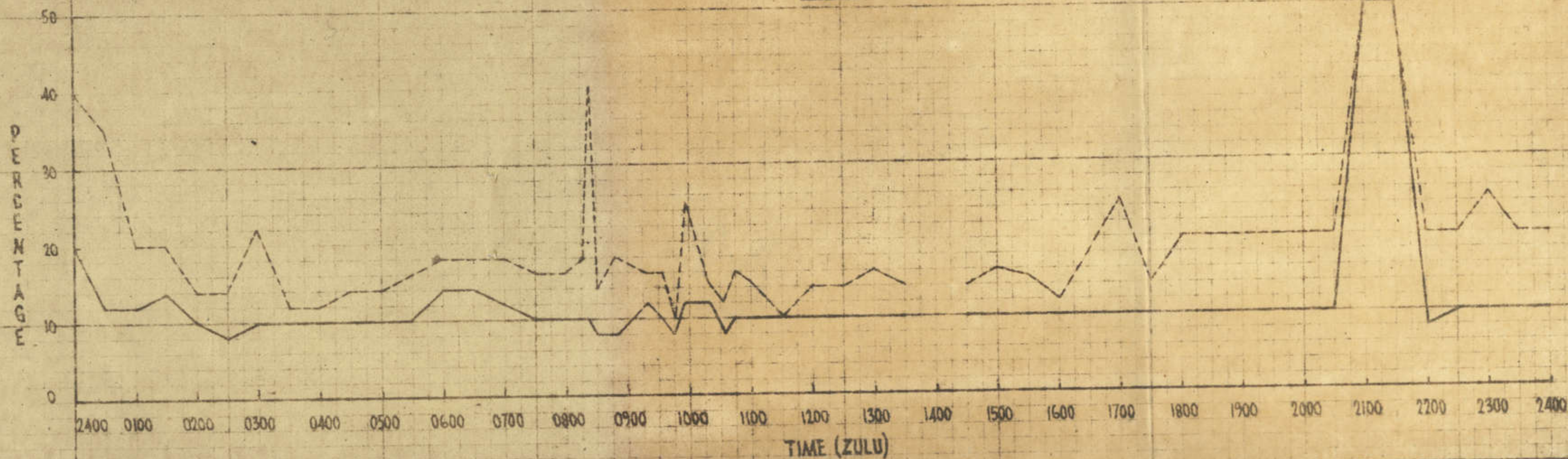
APPENDIX 2 to ANNEX E
to MONTHLY REPORT
DATED 8 DEC 71

Note: Peak Distortion -----
Average Distortion _____

S8AB

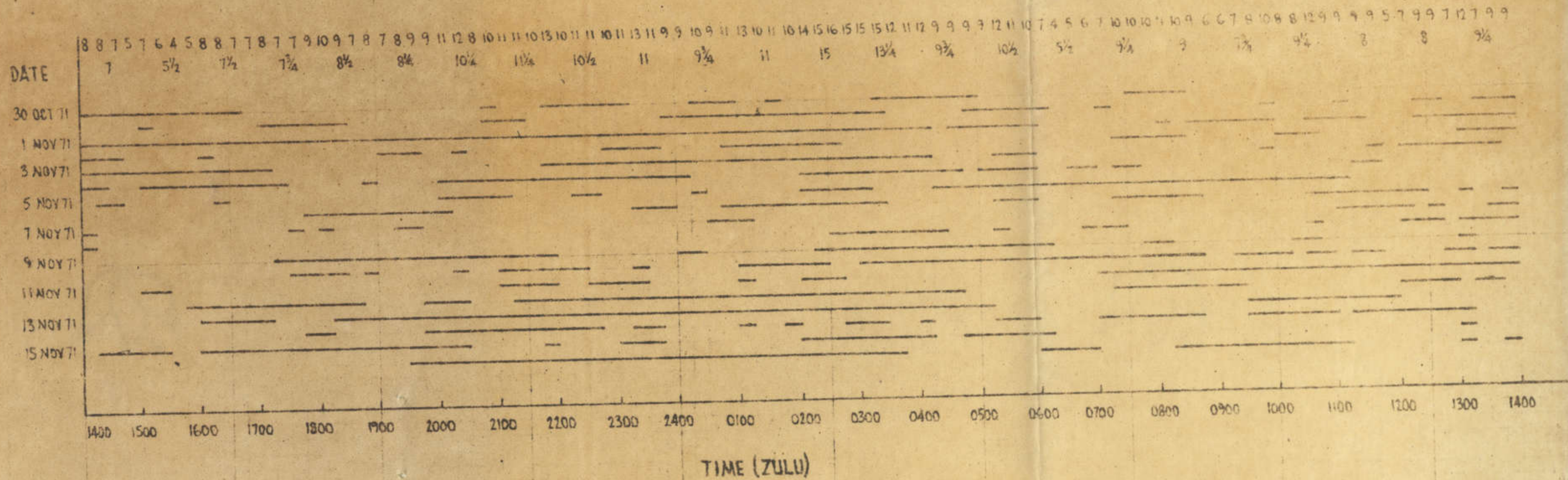


S8AA



APPENDIX 3 to ANNEX E
to MONTHLY REPORT
DATED 8 DEC 71

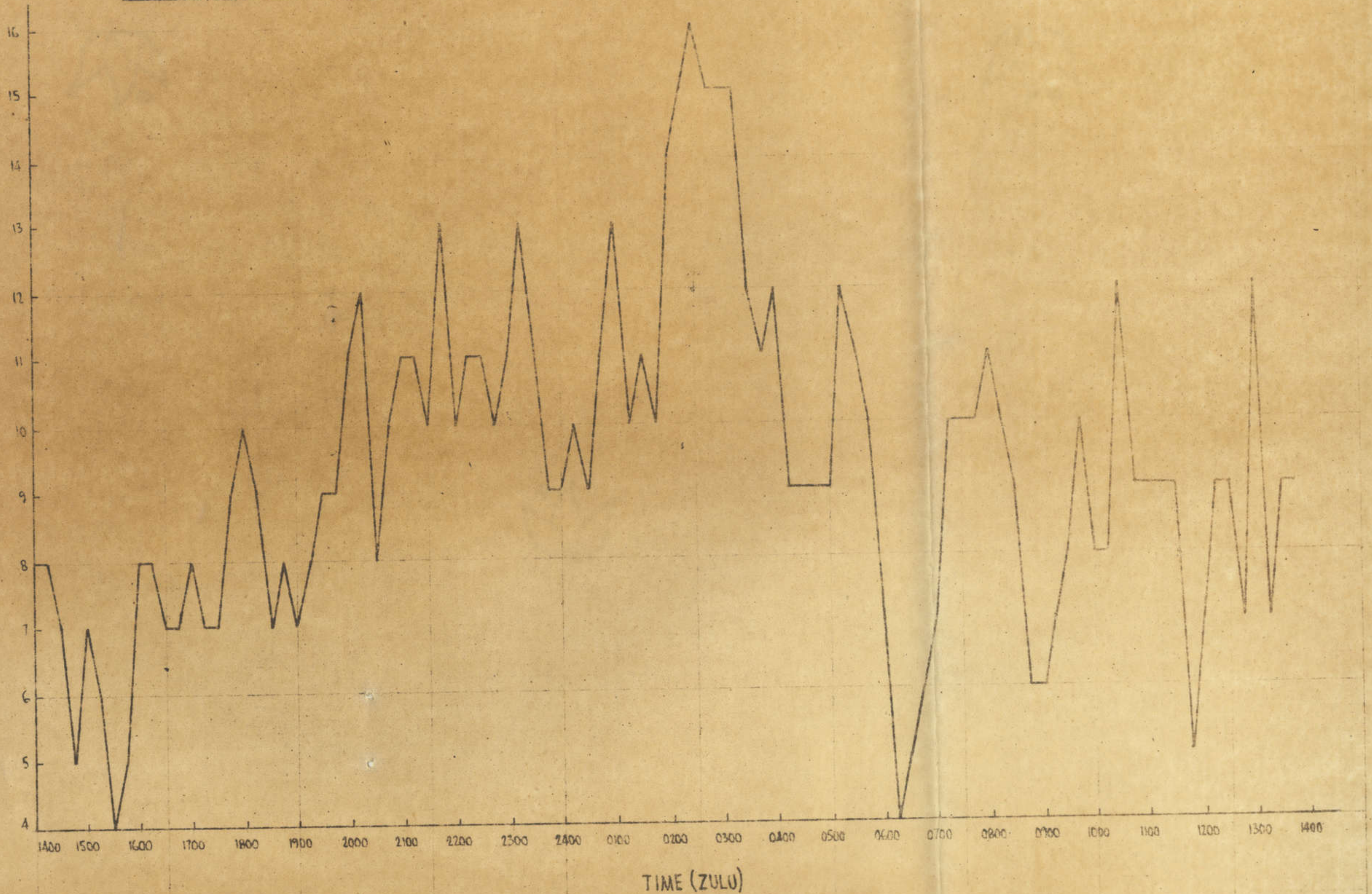
CIRCUIT OUTAGE CHART



FREQUENCY OF OUTAGES

S8AA (30 Oct - 17 Nov)

APPENDIX 4 to ANNEX F
to MONTHLY REPORT
DATED 8 DEC 71

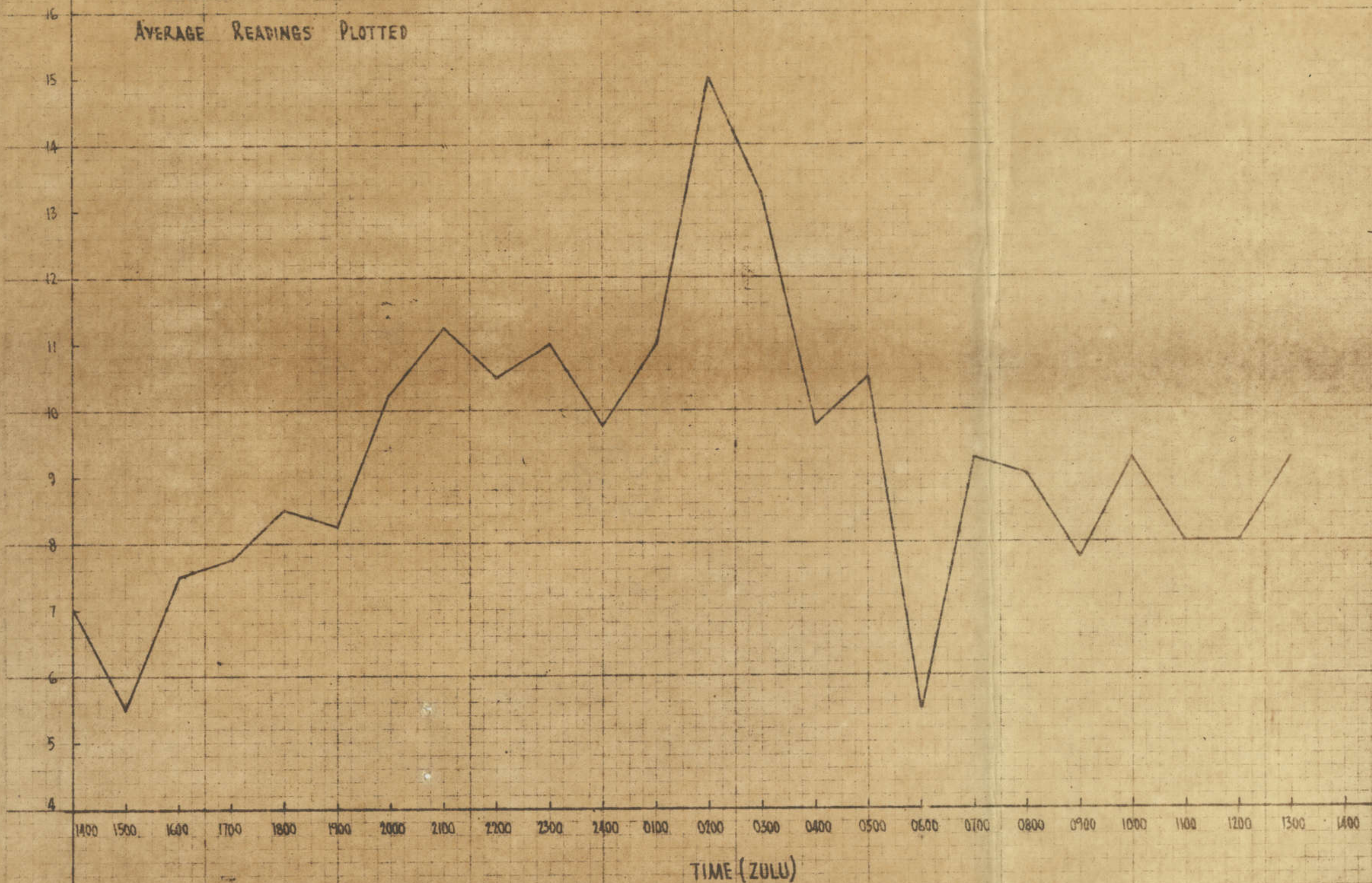


FREQUENCY OF OUTAGES

SBAA (30 Oct - 17 Nov)

AVERAGE READINGS PLOTTED

APPENDIX 5 to ANNEX E
to MONTHLY REPORT
DATED 8 DEC 71



MANNING
ESTABLISHMENT VARIATIONS

Note: Civilian establishment is not included.

1. Unit Establishment 9 Offrs 221 OR
2. Posted Strength 8 Offrs 172 OR
3. Vacancies ON Establishment 50
4. Establishment Positions Vacated For Op Interfuse As At 30 Nov 71

<u>Trade</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>No</u>
Admin Offr	Lt	1
Stmn	Sgt	1
Tech Elec	Sgt	1
Tech Cipher	Sgt	1
Clerk	Cpl	1
Dvr	Cpl	2
Tech Elec	Cpl	5
Tech Sig	Cpl	1
OKC	Cpl	4
Clerk	Sig	1
Cook	Pte	1
Lmn	Sig	2
Tech Elec	Sig	4
Mech Elec	Spr	1
Dvr	Sig	2
OK	Sig	12
OKR	Sig	4
OKC	Sig	5
		—
		50
		—

RESTRICTED

ANNEX G TO
110 SIG SQN R723/1/6
DATED DEC 71

TELEGRAPH CIRCUIT AVAILABILITY SUMMARY

VUNG TAU

Ser No	Channel	Availability	Percentage of OLC faults and alignments.	Other Eqpt faults	Bearer	Propagation
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
1.	MELB A *	43.0	2.4	5.2	45.8	3.6
2.	MELB B	84.3	1.1	7.3		3.9 In 3.4 Out
3.	MELB C	62.0	0.6	22.7		10.0 In 4.7 Out
4.	MELB All channels	89.0				
5.	HQ AFV A	90.6	1.8	7.0	0.6	
6.	HQ AFV B	96.2	1.9	1.8	0.1	
7.	HQ ATF	88.4	2.8	7.6	1.2	
8.	LONG BINH	97.2	1.1	0.7	1.0	
9.	RAAF V/T	96.8	1.6	1.6		
10.	GYL	72.7	0.7	2.6	22.3	1.7
11.	1H75	73.7	0.4	2.9	23.0	
12.	1980	97.0	0.8	2.2		

* Note that the Melbourne A circuit is now the S8AA circuit via Singapore.

RESTRICTED

ANNEX D TO
AFV (ARMY COMPONENT)
ADMIN INSTR NO 3
AMDT NO 3 DATE 22 JUN 71

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

WEEKLY STRENGTH RETURN (SPECIAL) REVISED JUN 71 AS AT 0800 hrs WED 3 NOV 71

To reach HQ AFV (Records Det) by 1200hrs Wednesday of each Week.

STRENGTH

	ESTB	POSTED STR
Offrs	9	10
WOs	8	6
ORs	213	209
Total	230	225

ARA/NS BREAK UP

	ARA	NS
Offrs	10	
ORs	143	72
Total	153	72

LOCATION OF POSTED STRENGTH

	With unit & physically located			Not physically with unit					Total
	Saigon	1 ATF	Other Units 1 AMSG	Leave	Hosp	AWOL	Detn	Aust	
Offrs	1	9							10
WOs	2	4							6
ORs	37	160	4	7	1				209
Total	40	173	4	7	1				225

AHQ ATTACHMENTS

No	Rank	Name
	NIL	


(SIGNATURE AND RANK)
110th Signal Squadron
(APPOINTMENT)

RESTRICTED

M/I

NIL

M/O

<u>NO</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SVN P/O NO</u>
39773	LCPL	SMITH M.A.	4883/71
3795155	SIG	BOURKE R.J.	TBA
4721290	SIG	PATRICK G.C.	TBA
4720671	SIG	WILLETT F.J.	TBA

NOTE:- There was a **considerable** turn over of 104 Sig Sqn personnel during the week which is not detailed ~~during~~ as it is still changing during their planned withdrawal etc.


	WESTERN	EASTERN	TOTAL
Office			
WOP			
OPS			
Total			

LOCATION OF POSTED PERSONNEL

	Not physically with unit		Physically located		TOTAL
	WOP	OPS	WOP	OPS	
Office					
WOP					
OPS					
Total					

AND ATTACHED

NO	RANK	NAME


 (NAME AND RANK)
 (POSITION)

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

ANNEX D TO
AFV (ARMY COMPONENT)
ADMIN INSTR NO 3
AMDT NO 3 DATE 22 JUN 71

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

WEEKLY STRENGTH RETURN (SPECIAL) REVISED JUN 71 AS AT 0800 hrs WED 10 NOV 71

To reach HQ AFV (Records Det) by 1200hrs Wednesday of each Week.

STRENGTH

	ESTB	POSTED STR
Offrs	9	11
WOs	8	9
ORs	213	211
Total	230	231

ARA/NS BREAK UP

	ARA	NS
Offrs	11	---
ORs	156	64
Total	167	64

LOCATION OF POSTED STRENGTH

	With unit & physically located				Not physically with unit				Total
	Saigon	1 ATF	1 ALSG	Leave	Hosp	AWOL	Detn	Aust	
Offrs	3	---	8	---	---	---	---	---	11
WOs	2	---	7	---	---	---	---	---	9
ORs	40	4	160	7	---	---	---	---	211
Total	45	4	175	7	---	---	---	---	231

AHQ ATTACHMENTS

No	Rank	Name
	NIL	

(SIGNATURE AND RANK)

110th Signal Squadron

(APPOINTMENT)

RESTRICTED

M/I

<u>NO</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SVN P/O No</u>
235372	LT	M. J. CASTLE	INTER-UNIT
53631	WO2	W. BANNIGAN	" 2 "
2412509	CPL	B. J. GILL	" " "
2788402	CPL	A. P. MOLONEY	" " "
1201987	CPL	R. L. WEIRMAN	" " "
4720890	LCPL	P. J. ROWE	" " "

There were 8 Members who marched into Det 104 Sig Sqn. Details are not listed as this Det is continually changing

		M/O		
4721616	LCPL	G. R. DOUGLAS	T B A	
3798845	LCPL	K. A. SMITH	" "	
2795012	SIG	K. S. BROWN	" "	
1736601	SIG	P. G. FIELDS	" "	
3798527	PTE	G. N. GUNN	" "	
3799132	SIG	P. E. HOWARD	" "	
2794795	SIG	R. W. LOBB	" "	
2795000	SIG	K. P. RICE	" "	

Total	1st AIBG	2nd AIBG	3rd AIBG	4th AIBG	5th AIBG	6th AIBG	7th AIBG	8th AIBG	9th AIBG	10th AIBG
11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
115	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
125	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

NO	NAME	RANK	DATE

[Signature]
 (SIGNED AND DATED)
 (CAPTURED)

ANNEX D TO
 AFV (ARMY COMPONENT)
 ADMIN INSTR NO 3
 AMDT NO 3 DATE 22 JUN 71

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

WEEKLY STRENGTH RETURN (SPECIAL) REVISED JUN 71 AS AT 0800 hrs WED 17 NOV 71

To reach HQ AFV (Records Det) by 1200hrs Wednesday of each Week.

STRENGTH

	ESTB	POSTED STR
Offrs	9	11
WOs	8	10
ORs	213	216
Total	230	237

ARA/NS BREAK UP

	ARA	NS
Offrs	11	
ORs	160	66
Total	171	66

LOCATION OF POSTED STRENGTH

	With unit & physically located				Not physically with unit				Total
	Saigon	1 ATF	1 ALSG	Leave	Hosp	AWOL	Detn	Aust	
Offrs	2	9							11
WOs	3	7							10
ORs	44	163		8	1				216
Total	49	179		8	1				237

AHQ ATTACHMENTS

No	Rank	Name
4101	WO1	J. D. DAYMAN
140395	WO2	A. R. HICKS
42215	SSgt	C. A. STAPLES
18693	Sgt	W. H. LIDSTER

(SIGNATURE AND RANK)

110th Signal Squadron

(APPOINTMENT)

RESTRICTED

M/I

SVN PO No

39706 Sig R. DRUMMOND
 313690 Sig P. J. HINDLE
 56215 LCpl S. BRADLEY
 311579 Cpl M. V. TEIRNEY

These members
 Posted 110 ~~Strength~~ Strength
 From Det 104 Sig Sqn

The following member RTU Det 104 Sig Sqn from LO's operated by that Squadron during the withdrawal.

217200 Sgt M. W. JOSEPH
 313476 Cpl D. W. PURCELL
 219408 LCpl R. T. SMITH
 1736707 Sig B. J. BRESLIN
 1202078 LCpl R. CATCH
 1737260 Sig A. MCKAY
 3793610 Sig D. L. KNIGHT
 56119 Sig R. J. HATTLEY

POSTED STR	STR	
11	2	11
10	8	18
210	210	420
SES	PO No	Total

M/O

210495 WO1 C. G. HOODCHILD 4852/71
 43833 Sgt W. J. CADD 5485/71
 1200821 Sgt S. W. ORGAN 5562/71
 2792284 LCpl J. J. COLLYER T.B.A.
 3795914 LCpl T. J. ELLIS T.B.A.
 3797214 Sig P. J. DUNDAS T.B.A.

11	2	11
10	7	17
210	210	420
SES	PO No	Total

NAME	POST	NO
HINDLE	Sgt	110
HINDLE	Sgt	110
BRADLEY	LCpl	110
TEIRNEY	Cpl	110

[Handwritten signature]

RESTRICTED

ANNEX D TO
AFV (ARMY COMPONENT)
ADMIN INSTR NO 3
AMDT NO 3 DATE 22 JUN 71

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

WEEKLY STRENGTH RETURN (SPECIAL) REVISED JUN 71 AS AT 0800 hrs WED 24 Nov 71

To reach HQ AFV (Records Det) by 1200hrs Wednesday of each Week.

STRENGTH

	ESTB	POSTED STR
Offrs	9	11
WOs	8	8
ORs	213	217
Total	230	236

ARA/NS BREAK UP

	ARA	NS
Offrs	11	-
ORs	160	65
Total	171 171	65

LOCATION OF POSTED STRENGTH

	With unit & physically located			Not physically with unit					Total
	Saigon	1 ATF	OTHER	Leave	Hosp	AWOL	Detn	Aust	
Offrs	1	10							11
WOs	3	5							8
ORs	40	165	4	8					217
Total	44	180	4	8					236

AHQ ATTACHMENTS

No	Rank	Name
4101	WO1	J. D. DAYMAN
140395	WO2	A. R. HICKS
42215	SSGT	C. A. STAPLES
18693	SGT	W. H. LIDSTER

[Signature]
(SIGNATURE AND RANK)

Administrative Officer

10th Signal Squadron

(APPOINTMENT)

RESTRICTED

AMOUNT OF PAY (MILITARY) (MILITARY)
 (MILITARY) (MILITARY)
 (MILITARY) (MILITARY)
 (MILITARY) (MILITARY)

1/2

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

WEEKLY RETURN (SPECIAL) RETURNED TO HQ AT 0800 HRS WED
 To reach HQ A/V (Records) by 1000 hrs Wednesday of each week.

1/1

ALAN BREAK UP

1/0

2792284	LCPL	COLLYER

RECORDS

POSTED	DATE	
J. J.	SVN P/O No TBA	(COMPASSIONATE GROUNDS)

LIST OF FORWARDED RETURN

With unit & physically located		Not physically with unit	

AND ATTACHMENTS

(SIGNATURE AND NAME)

(CAPTION)

EXHIBIT

RESTRICTED

ANNEX A TO
SECTION 2 TO
CHAPTER 2

RATIONED NOT QUARTED UNITS
OUT OF SAIGON AREA

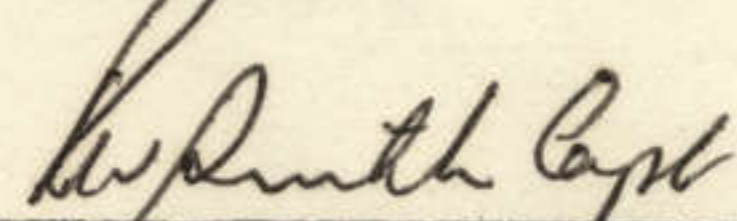
HQ AFV (For Financial Adviser)

UNIT: 110 Sh Signal Squadron

Strength report for the month of: November

1. Unit Average Strength (See Note 1)
Offrs: 8 . 33 ORs (include WOs): 166 . 43
2. In country R and C Average Strength: (See note 2)
Offrs: _____ ORs (Include WOs): _____
3. Australian Combat Rations (See note 3)
Total number consumed: _____

I certify that I have
checked this return and
its accuracy.



(Responsible Officer)

Notes for compilation of return

- Note 1:
- a. With the exception of the return rendered by HQ 26 Coy RAASC only Aust personnel are to be included.
 - b. HQ 26 Coy RAASC is to show separately members of the concessionaire's staff as well as Aust personnel.
 - c. The method of calculating average strength of the unit is to count the P,D,H,S (and R when the member is in unit lines for the period of rest) marking in Company Roll Books. Daily Parade State figures are not to be used.
 - d. Add:
Aust Philanthropic Representative.
Aust overnight Attachment/Transients.
Aust day leave/Duty Saigon.
 - e. Exclude: Anyone who is not Aust(HQ 26 Coy RAASC excepted).

Out of Country R and R.
In Country R and C.
Hospitalization Butterworth or RTA.
AWOL Personnel.
Overnight Detachments.

.....f.

RESTRICTED

-2-

f. AFV Amenities and Welfare Unit, 1 Aust Fd Hosp, 8 Fd Amb, AFV Provost (in respect of the AFV Detention Barracks) are to show Aust staff only.

Note 2: For use by AFV Amenities and Welfare Unit only; to show monthly strength of members present for rest and convalescence.

Note 3: The total number of Australian Combat Rations consumed; eg. 20 personnel consumed Australian Combat Rations over a period of 3 days. Return should read: - 60.

I certify that I have checked this return and its accuracy.

[Signature]

Notes for completion of return

Note 1: In the case of the return numbered by HQ Coy SAAC only that personnel are to be included.

Note 2: HQ Coy SAAC is to show separately members of the executive staff as well as Aust personnel.

Note 3: The method of calculating average strength of the unit is to count the P, D, M, S and R when the member is in the unit for the period of rest) carrying in Company Roll books. Daily Rations figures are not to be used.

4. Add: Aust Ambulance representatives
Aust overnight attachment/transients
Aust day leave/day Saigon

5. Exclude: anyone who is not entitled to day leave (see accepted).

Out of Country R and R.
In Country R and R.
Hospitalization/Day leave
Aust leave
Overnight Detachment.

RESTRICTED

ANNEX B TO
SECTION 2 TO
CHAPTER 2

QUARTERED NOT RATIONED UNITS IN SAIGON AREA

HQ AFV(For Financial Adviser)

UNIT: DET 110 SIG SQN SAIGON

Strength Report For the Month of.....NOVEMBER 71.....

1. Unit Average Strength(See Note 1)
Officers.....1.50..... WOs.....2.76..... ORs(Less WOs).....37.66.....
2. Hospitalized(See Note 2)
Total Bed. Days:
Officers.....-..... WOs.....-..... ORs(Less WOs).....-.....
3. Australian Combat Rations(See Note 3)
Total Number Consumed.....-.....

I certify that I have checked this return and
its accuracy

.....
(Responsible Officer)

Notes For Compilation of Return

- Note 1. a. Only Aust Personnel are to be included.
b. The method of calculating average strength of the unit is to count the P,D,H,S (and when the member is in the equivalent of unit lines for the period of rest) markings in Company Roll Books. Daily Parade State figures are NOT to be used.
c. Add: Aust Philanthropic Representatives accommodated in a BOQ/BEQ.
Aust overnight Attachments/Transients accommodated in a BOQ/BEQ.
Day leave=Duty out of SAIGON
d. Exclude: Anyone who is not Aust, Out of country R and R, Hospitalized Butterworth or RTA, AWOL personnel, overnight Detachments.
e. AATTV: Show strengths by HQ AATTV, AATTV on special duty and other AATTV.

Note 2 Show only bed days per Offr, WO, OR(Less WOs) of members hospitalized in US hospitals.

eg. 2 OR in hospital for 5 days
1 OR in hospital for 7 days
1 Offr in hospital for 8 days

Return should read: Offrs 8 bed days - OR 17 bed days

Note 3 The total number of Australian Combat Rations consumed on a daily basis, eg 20 personnel consumed Australian Combat Rations over a period of 3 days - Return should read: 60

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