

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Signals units

Item number: 6/4/4

Item: 145 Signal Squadron

Narrative

Annexes

[1-31 May 1966]

PART 1

COVERING LETTER

Reference No. 117:3:2

To: OIC, Military History Section, AHQ.

1. I enclose Commanders Diary (AF C2118) (Adapted) as indicated at Part 2.

2. Please return receipt below.

(Signature)

Maj

Appointment

OC 145 Sig Sqn

(OC Unit or senior staff officer)

PART 2

SECRET

ORIGINAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Strike out where

not applicable

COMMANDERS DIARY

OF

Unit or Formation

145 Sig Sqn

From

1 May 66

To

31 May 66

INDEX

Narrative (AF C2118)

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

..... to

..... to

1 to 2

..... to

..... to

..... to

..... to

..... to

..... to

3 to

..... to

..... to

..... to

4 to

5 to

† NIL

† RETAINED

† Despatched to

on

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

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

TENTS

es as well as map references), establishment, equipment
d orders given.
he day's fighting, including company movements.
nmander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

potential importance.
o officers, men and equipment.
pment captured.
employed in the time not accounted for. The type of

s and to save work as much information as possible is to
uments issued and received, routine returns, etc. All
l and the time of receipt or despatch is to be given.

he 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

6. Both original and duplicate copies are to consist of:

- Cover (AF C 2119) (Adapted).
- Index as printed on cover.
- Narrative (AF C 2118) (Adapted).
- Answers 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, listing at B.

for operations from Annex "Z". TOP SECRET
the documents. It is to be prepared and despatched as

INDEX

as to the map reference, etc. The type of

orders given.

the day's fighting, including the names of the

particular with regard to the names of the

actual importance

of officers, men and equipment

present captured

employed in the area not mentioned etc. The type of

and to save work as much information as possible is to

be given in full and verified, positive figures, etc. All

and the time of receipt or despatch is to be given.

the annexes, but need not give a page 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

MONTH AND YEAR May 66

CONFIDENTIAL
REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 145 Sig Sqn

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj J.H. BIRD

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
VUNG TAU	1 May		Interim swbd (SB-22P/T) opened 1 ALSG pending availability MTC-3	
VUNG TAU	4 May	0500 hrs	HF CW (AN/TRC-75) circuit opened to HMAS SYDNEY arriving in theatre	Annex 'C' Enclosure 1, 2 Annex C Enclosure 1, Apr 66 War Diary
		1400 hrs	8 pers 581 Sig Tp, 11 pers 552 Sig Tp arr in theatre ex HMAS SYDNEY	
VUNG TAU	4 May	0700 hrs	AN/PRC-25 MC net operated for HMAS SYDNEY unloading until 8 May	
BIEN HOA/SAIGON	5 May		US voice channel from IVANHOE swbd (BIEN HOA) converted to direct circuit DAAG HQ AFV - 1 RAR GP	
VUNG TAU	8 May	1200 hrs	EMU swbd (MTC-3) opened 1 ALSG by 581 Sig Tp	
SAIGON	8 May		HF CW circuit opened to LSM VERNON STURDEE (WS C11) (operating VUNG TAU - SAIGON) from HQ AFV (AN/PRC-47)	
VUNG TAU	12 May	0030 hrs	Fire 581 Sig Tp lines. 4 tents destroyed. 2 pers superficially injured. No damage to comms.	
VUNG TAU	19 May	1400 hrs	20 pers 581nSig Tp arr in theatre by air	
NUI DAT/VUNG TAU	25 May		2 tie lines estb EBONY swbd (1 ATF) - EMU swbd (1 ALSG)	
VUNG TAU	27 May		506 Sig Tp arrived in theatre by air (12 pers)	
			CONFIDENTIAL	

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BRIEF ON COMMS FOR HMAS SYDNEY RECEPTION

1.

AUST ARMY VIETNAM - HMAS SYDNEY

a. PRIMARY. HF SSB Voice/CW. Open C. 2100 hrs Z
3 May 66 (ie first light VUNG TAU 4 May 66).

FREQUENCY 3361 kcs

CALL SIGNS

CW : HMAS SYDNEY "5DXU"

AUST ARMY STATION "RQ9W"

VOICE : HMAS SYDNEY "02 - SORRY SKATER"

AUST ARMY STATION "01 - SORRY SKATER"

b. SECONDARY. VHF/FM VOICE. ARMY will provide
operator and equipment (AR/PRC - 25) on board SYDNEY
as station on 10 net.

FREQUENCY 4.7 Mcs

CALL SIGNS

STATION ON SYDNEY "02 - LAUREL TILDER"

ARMY CONTROL STATION "01 - LAUREL
TILDER"

c. Call signs and frequencies will NOT change. PRIMARY
net to standby status when SECONDARY net opens. Off line
encrypted traffic can be accepted on PRIMARY net using
AIS 334/1. This traffic can be routed to AUST on ARMY
channels if required.

d. Requirement for HMAS SYDNEY to supply comms with shore
and vice versa. Note, however, that ARMY at VUNG TAU works
on A 2.71 Mcs and uses "VUNG TAU" as call sign - HMAS SYDNEY
is to avoid this.

e. Requirement for HMAS SYDNEY to put comms pers ashore.

f. Cable with 2CH/LS. FREQ: 2.73 Mcs. CALL SIGN: "SPORTY
RADIO - 52" (This is for 1500 which will go with HMAS SYDNEY).
If LOA are not able to receive comms. If they do not and HMAS SYDNEY
requires comms to them, AUST ARMY will deploy PRC - 25 dets to them
and they will use the SECONDARY net at para 1b.

g. Cable with Cargo Helicopters. Details will be advised
later.

1 May 66

S. Sigs Hq, ARV

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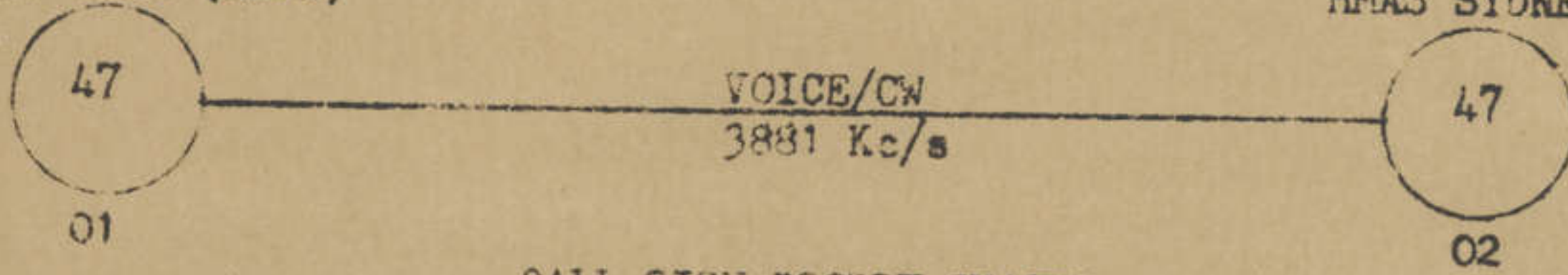
SECRET

RADIO DIAGRAMS

PRIMARY

AUST ARMY (ALSG)

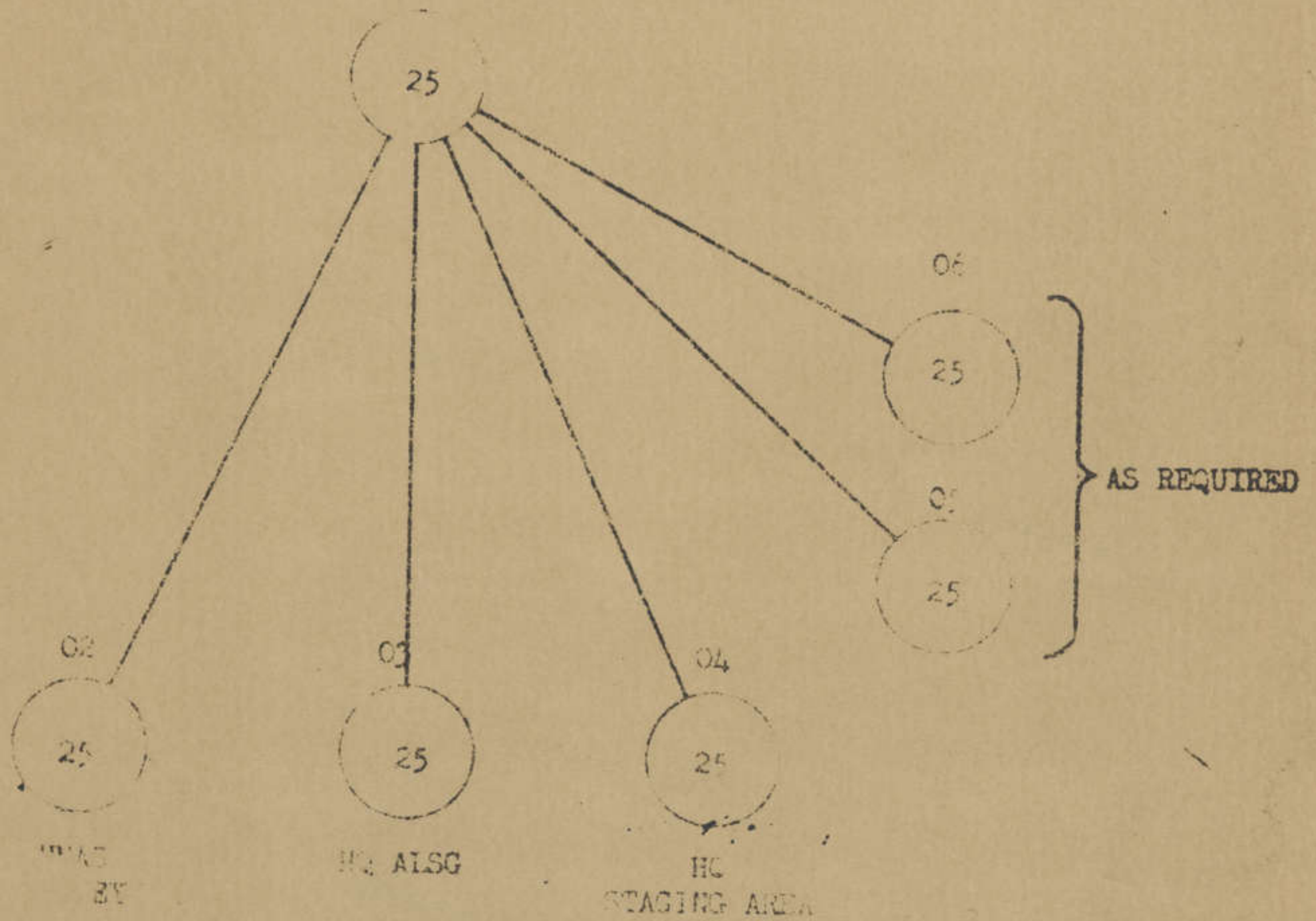
HMAS SYDNEY



CALL SIGN "SORRY SKATER"

SECONDARY (MC NET)

SEA RAMP
(MC MARSHALL)
01



CALL SIGN "LAUREL TIGER"

FREQ 64.7 K/c

SECRET

ANNEX 'C'
ENCLOSURE 2.

F - Sigs 52 - 1
Reprinted Sep

MESSAGE FORM

File

NUMBER 132-1-3 (18)

FOR COMM CEN/SIGNALS USE

002 00/0055 Z

PRECEDENCE — ACTION PRIORITY	PRECEDENCE — INFO DEFERRED	DATE — TIME GROUP 020030 Z	MESSAGE INSTRUCTIONS
From 145 SIG SQN			PREFIX GR
To DET 145 SIG SQN VUNG TAI			SECURITY CLASSIFICATION SECRET
			ORIGINATOR'S NUMBER SIGS 0467

Info

FOR OC @ HARDWOOD COMMS @ FURTHER TO OUR SIGS 0464
OF 300409Z APR @ ONE @ COMMS BETWEEN HMAS SYDNEY
AND LCU/LSM @ USN LCU NC 1556 CALL SIGN QUOTE
SPORTY RELIC 52 UNQUOTE WILL OF HE AM TO HMAS SYDNEY
ON 2738 KCS RPT 2738 KCS @ UP TO FOUR OTHER LCLIS
MAY BE USED WITHOUT RADIO FITMENT @ DET 145 SIG SQN BE
PREF DEPLOY ONE OP WITH PRC 25 ON BOARD THESE FOUR
LCLIS TO PERMIT THEM JOIN MC NET @ TWO SETS
FROM MC NET AND TWO FROM 103 SIG SQN DETS AVAIL FOR
THIS @ TWO @ FOR INFO NO REQUIREMENT FOR HMAS
SYDNEY TO DEPLOY ANY RADIO DETS ASHORE @ THREE @
CARGO HELICOPTERS WILL PROBABLY BE EMP BETWEEN SYDNEY
AND SHORE @ OC DET TO ASCERTAIN FREQ AND CALL SIGN
THESE AC @ TRY VUNG TAI CON TOWER OR MAJ DILLEN
OF TMA VUNG TAI INITIALLY @ ADVISE RESULTS

Page.....of.....pages		REFERS TO MESSAGE CLASSIFIED <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		DRAFTER'S NAME J BIRD		OFFICE OC		TEL No 249			
FOR OPS USE	R	DATE	TIME	SYSTEM	OPERATOR	D	DATE	TIME	SYSTEM	OPERATOR	RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE AND RANK

SECRET

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
VIETNAM

354542(13)

HQ IAFV

AVERAGE STRENGTH FOR MONTH

UNIT

1. Unit average strength. (See note 1)

Offrs	1.30	ORs	22.42
-------	------	-----	-------

2. In country R&C average strength. (See note 2)

Offrs	ORs
-------	-----

3. Hospitalised US Hospitals (See note 3)

Total bed/days :

Offrs	ORs
-------	-----

R. Blumig
.....
CO / OC / Adjt

Notes for Compilation of Return

- Note 1. a. In arriving at Unit Average Strength :
Include Philanthropic Representatives
 Overnight attachments
 Hospitalised US Hospitals
 Day leave/duty SAIGON
Exclude Overnight detachments
 Out of Country R & R
 In country R & C
 Hospitalised Butterworth or RTA.
- b. AATTV. Include COMAAFV and show strengths by HQ AATTV; AATTV on special duty; other AATTV.
- c. Aust R & C Centre
 Show staff only.
- Note 2. For use by Aust R & C Centre only; to show average monthly strength of members present for Rest and Convalescence.
- Note 3. Personal particulars and dates member hospitalised US hospitals NOT required. Show only bed/days per Offrs and ORs.
 eg 2 OR in hospital 5 days
 1 OR in hospital 7 days
 1 Offr in hospital 8 days
 return would read; Offrs 8 Bed/days
 ORs 17 Bed/days

JHB/DAB

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

VIETNAM

145 Sig Sqn
SAIGON

6 May 66

HQ AAFV

AIR CONDITIONING/COOLING FOR SIGNALS INSTALLATIONS

1. There is an urgent requirement for cooling/ air conditioning in the transmitter and receiver buildings of this unit.
2. Electronic equipment in these installations have an exceptionally high fault rate which can be directly attributed to excess heat and, to a lesser extent, dust. These faults are a hazard to communications and cause excessive use of replaceable components. In the case of the transmitters, the output power has commenced falling below the equipment's rated output and it is often necessary to remove a transmitter from service to allow it to cool.
3. Of equal concern is the progressive deterioration of equipment wiring. Under present temperatures the insulation hardens and cracks and this will lead to increasing equipment failures.
4. Efforts to cool the equipment with normal oscillating fans have been quite futile. Removal of dust covers to aid cooling is quite inadequate and in any case it permits the destructive ingress of dust.
5. To cope with the heat dissipated by the equipment, it is assessed that 3 air conditioners (2 for transmitters and 1 for receivers) of the following type, or equivalent capacity, are necessary:

 FEDDERS (USA)
 Model SB16DX-9
 Cooling 11 amps, 2,000 watts
 13,000 BTU/hr.
6. The above are in common use by US forces in theatre and it is requested that 3 of them be provided urgently.

John A. Reid

Maj
OC 145 Sig Sqn

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ANNEX 'O'
ENCLOSURE 5
05

R193-1-11

145 Sig Sqn
12 Tran Quoc Toan
CHOLON
VIETNAM
13 Jun 66

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS - MAY 66

General

1. This summary covers the period 1 May 66 to 8 Jun 66.

Point to Point Circuits

2. SAIGON - MELBOURNE

a. Continued HF SSB secure duplex RTT tlc channel plus insecure RTT engr channel 24 hrs per day.

b. Average hours per day channel available for traffic:-

(1) To MELBOURNE 21.1

(2) From MELBOURNE 21.2

c. Major losses of time:-

(1) To MELBOURNE : propagation - approx 2.1 hrs/day; eqpt faults - approx 0.4 hrs/day.

(2) From MELBOURNE : propagation - approx 2.6 hrs/day; eqpt faults - approx 0.2 hrs/day.

d. Tlc handled in May:-

(1) Monthly Tlc State - Annex A.

(2) Total IN and OUT msgs: 6876.

(3) Breakout by precedence : Immediate 150, Priority 1019, Routine 3153, Service Wires 2554.

e. AN/TRC-75 located HQ AFV and connected to System Con Room is avail for CW or RTT (SSB) op - effectiveness limited by lack of space for effective aerial.

3. SAIGON- BIEN HOA

a. Continued secure simplex TTY circuit on US bearer - 24 hrs/day schedule.

b. Av hrs/day channel avail for tlc to and from BIEN HOA:-

(1) Secure 15.4

(2) Insecure 5.6 (due high noise level on US bearer).

c. Major losses of tlc time:-

(1) US bearer fault - approx 2.5 hrs/day.

(2) Eqpt faults/engr - 0.5 hrs/day.

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/d. Tlc handled

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d. Tfc handled in May:-

- (1) Total msgs IN and OUT - 1547.
- (2) Breakout by precedences : Immediate 62, Priority 442, Routine 928, Service Wires 115.

e. Two voice channels on US bearers:-

DAAG/Duty Offr HQ AFV - 1 RAR CP (ex IVANHOE swbd 5 May)
Q Mov/ Duty Offr HQ AFV - IVANHOE Swbd,

available approx 18.7 hrs/day. Loss of 5.3 hrs/day due US bearer channel faults, particularly one incident of flooding of US cables at TAN SON NHUT. Voice channels are of poor quality at the best of times.

4. SAIGON - VUNG TAU (1 ALSG)

a. Continued secure simplex TTY circuit using US bearer - 24 hr/day schedule.

b. Average availability of circuit for tfc - 19.5 hrs/day.

c. Major losses of tfc time:

- (1) US bearer circuit faults - 4.0 hrs/day
- (2) Other faults - 0.5 hrs/day.
- (3) US bearer faults mainly due to frequent cutting of line tails between US carrier terminal at VUNG TAU airfd and 1 ALSG. Some of these cuts were deliberate. As result our representations 39 Sig Bn building cement pole route (80% complete at 6 June) and running 26 pr cable to 1 ALSG. About 1/3 of all outages is due to time taken for US techs to re-engr system after a fault condition - US systems at VUNG TAU are new and causing some trouble - situation improving.

d. Tfc handled in May:-

- (1) Total msgs IN and OUT - 2447.
- (2) Breakout by precedence - Immediate 102, Priority 699, Routine 1534, Service Wires 112.

e. Two voice channels operated on US bearers:

DAQMG/Duty Offr HQ AFV - Ops Room HQ 1 ALSG

Engr channel System Control SAIGON - Interim sigcen VUNG TAU

Average availability 17.4 hrs per day.

f. AN/TRC-75 HQ AFV - AN/TRC-75 in Interim Sigcen PANTECH (1 ALSG) provided HF CW back-up to above. CW satisfactory but subject at times to heavy QRN and some QRN during periods of local thunderstorms.

5. SAIGON - RAAF (VUNG TAU)

a. Continued insecure simplex RPT circuit on US bearers - 9 hrs/day schedule.

b. Average time available to tfc - 6.8 hrs/schedule.

/c. Major losses

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c. Major losses of t/c time:

- (1) US bearer circuit faults - 2.0 hrs/schedule (mainly due to flooding of US cables at TAN SON NHUT).
- (2) Others - 0.2 hrs/schedule.

d. T/c handled in May:-

- (1) Total msgs IN and OUT - 273.
- (2) Breakout by precedence: Immediate 5, Priority 89, Routine 179.
- (3) T/c volume sharply reduced when secure circuit opened SAIGON - 1 ALSG. Classified t/c hand delivered between 1 ALSG and RAAF.

e. This circuit will close when secure circuit opens 1 ALSG - RAAF Base Ops Centre Jun 66 on Aust land line strung on US pole route.

6. SAIGON - 1 ATF

a. Opened secure simplex TTY circuit on US bearers - to be 24 hr/day schedule. Due for activation 7 Jun. US began engineering 5 Jun and circuit began to be available wef 7 Jun but with prolonged and frequent outages. AN/TRC-75 eqpt at HQ AFV and HQ 1 ATF providing CW back-up. These are heavily loaded and some backlog of t/c builds up during prolonged US bearer outages. Availability of US channels is improving daily.

b. Two voice channels opened 7 Jun :

- (1) G3/Duty Offr HQ AFV - TOC HQ 1 ATF.
- (2) G3/Duty Offr HQ AFV - EBONY swbd HQ 1 ATF.

Availability of these channels about the same as the telegraph channel.

7. 1 ATF - 1 ALSG

a. One simplex secure RTT circuit on US bearer channel - availability as for para 6a.

b. One voice channel EMU - EBONY swbd opened 7 Jun - availability as for para 6 a.

c. From 23 May, when 5 RAR deployed fwd in BA RIA area, 103 Sig Sqn provided PRC-47/PRC-25 circuit between 5 RAR and 5 RAR B ech which remained 1 ALSG. Fwd det on manpack basis. When HQ 1 ATF moved fwd to BA RIA area this circuit became rear link HQ 1 ATF - HQ 1 ALSG. Initially cct used PRC-47 during day for voice and CW at night. This backed by PRC-25 circuit which used manual relay from VC Hill, a 240 metre feature 2 miles from 1 ALSG. Automatic rebroadcast not possible due to faulty rebroadcast assy (reported separately). Wef 6 May PRC-25 dets worked direct from area of Sigcen 1 ALSG and good voice comms were maintained 24 hrs per day over the 19 mile circuit. During periods of US bearer outage this circuit carried bulk of t/c - off line encrypted groups passed by voice at rate above that achieved by CW. TRC-75 det ex 552 Sig Tp deployed fwd with HQ 1 ATF 5 Jun and assisted in clearing t/c on CW. TRC-75 failures at VUNG TAU necessitated recourse to PRC-47 for most of period (TRC-75 failures detailed below).

/8. 1 ATF - 2 FFORCE V

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8. 1 ATF - 2 FFORCE V. One voice channel to EBONY swbd and one secure duplex TTY circuit terminated by US at HQ 1 ATF due to open 5 May. US experiencing eqpt availability and deployment problems and circuits not opened by 8 Jun 66. Tfc to and from 2 FFORCE V (incl 8 FLASH precedence in 6 days) accepted at HQ AFV from MACV or hand delivered between Sigcen 1 ALSG and US Sigcen loc VUNG TAU.

Area Comms Facilities

..... 9. SAIGON. Significant growth in tfc handled by Sigcen - see Annex B.

10. VUNG TAU

a. Sigcen

(1) Interim sigcen (pantech installation) worked efficiently within limits of circuits to it - separate off line crypto tent estb adjacent to veh when circuit to 1 ATF opened and tfc increased.

(2) Installation of 531 Sig Tp COMCEN progressed and accepted circuits waf 7 Jun.

(3) Good trg and assistance in local tfc distr obtained over line circuit to 1 ATF sigcen which opened 1 ALSG 26 May. 1 ATF sigcen closed 1 ALSG and reopened HQ 1 ATF (BA RIA) 6 Jun.

b. Swbd

(1) EMU swbd had approx 65 lines as at 6 Jun - installation keeping pace with demand.

(2) Tie line from EMU to US VUNG TAU swbd estb - calls from DEER (HQ AFV) through US system to EMU slow; the circuit is noisy and often busy but normally ~~acceptable~~. This should improve with new VUNG TAU swbd just opened and with US plans for more trunks to it from the SAIGON area.

(3) EBONY swbd (latest designation for HQ 1 ATF swbd) opened 25 May in ALSG area with locals to 1 ATF and 2 tie lines to EMU swbd. Closed 1 ALSG and opened HQ 1 ATF (BA RIA) 5 Jun.

(4) D10 telephone circuit direct from 2 Pd Amb (1 ALSG) to US 36 Gas Evac Hosp on VUNG TAU airfd opened but line cut so often unit using PRC-25s until US finish pole route 1 ALSG - VUNG TAU airfield.

c. SDS. 103 Sig Sqn provided limited SDS in ALSG area. 145 Sig Sqn inability to provide permanent SDS in that area slows traffic distr and inconveniences units who are obliged to deliver to and collect from sigcen.

11. BIEN HOA

a. Sigcen and IVANHOE swbd scheduled to close 2400H 13 Jun. SDS SAIGON - BIEN HOA to cease 14 Jun.

b. One of two voice extns from IVANHOE swbd to HQ AFV reterminated direct to 1 RAR CP bypassing IVANHOE swbd.

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Codes and Procedures

13. Movement control net (PRC-25) provided for unloading HMAS SYDNEY 4-8 May and 4-6 Jun. Dets at: SYDNEY, landing area, check pt, HQ ALSC and MC HQ. Comms were satisfactory. HMAS SYDNEY contacted CW prior to arrival and contact maintained until PRC-25 det boarded SYDNEY - some problems using AIS 534/1 encountered on second trip of SYDNEY - details not yet available.

Major Eqt Problems

13. AN/PRC-25 A defect has occurred in the handset of the eqpt-- cracking occurs in the plastic in the area of the set screw. A defect report initiated by 1 RAR has been sent to AUST. This fault is widespread among US forces who attribute it to a manufacturing defect in that the set screw has insufficient room for expansion and this causes cracking of the plastic handset which is brittle under the temperature conditions of this theatre. US reaction has been to provide stocks of replacement handsets in theatre while the handset design is being reconsidered. HQ AFV are arranging AFV access to these stocks of spare handsets.

14. AN/TRC-75

a. Fault incidence 552 Sig Tp's TRC-75 eqpts is high. Faults included:-

- (1) Electronic Control Amplifier in AR58 receiver (module AM1525/URC) faulty - fault not yet identified. This fault occurred on 2 eqpts.
- (2) Antenna Coupler Control - faulty module C-2848/TRC-75 - fault not yet identified.
- (3) Antenna Coupler CU-749/TRC-75 - vertigrease on inductance ribbon - fault cleared when ribbon cleaned - a number of instances of this fault - possibly due sea voyage - if it persists, defect report will be submitted.
- (4) Box Relay failure - readjustment cleared fault.
- (5) Microswitch for side air vent inoperative due to ingress of sand - fault cleared with cleaning.
- (6) Two eqpts have faults, as yet unidentified, in Radio Transmitter 2/730/TRC-75 - symptom is permanent overload condition.

b. At one point in time 5 of the 6 eqpts were unserviceable. With arrival of experienced techs and appropriate test eqpt ex HMAS SYDNEY these faults should be cleared. One TRC-75 veh rolled over sand embankment - veh extensively damaged (now under repair) - no damage to men and eqpt.

c. Difficulty found in operating TRC-75 under effective black-out conditions - the eqpt overheats and the thermal relay switches it off. An acceptable compromise was found by removing the front seats of the vehicle, blacking out the windscreen and part of the door opening.

d. It is found that in sandy/dusty conditions, the air filters must be cleaned daily.

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J.H. Bird
(J.H. BIRD)
Maj
OC 145 Sig Sqn