

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Signals units

Item number: 6/4/6

Item: 145 Signal Squadron

Narrative

Annexes

[1-31 Jul 1966]

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

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

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.

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 enclosures are convenient for a particular headquarters, stating as follows:

for operations lists Annex "Z", "TOP SECRET" (the designation). It is to be prepared and disposed of as follows:

EVENTS (including dates, times, locations, establishment, equipment, orders given, the day's fighting, including company movements, numbered with regard to equipment, tactics, organization)

essential importance of officers, men and equipment present captured, employed in the field not accounted for. The type of

and to give work as much information as possible is to be given and the date of receipt or despatch is to be given.

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

(continued on back cover)

This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF - C 2119 (Adapted).

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR Jul 66

REFERENCE MAP

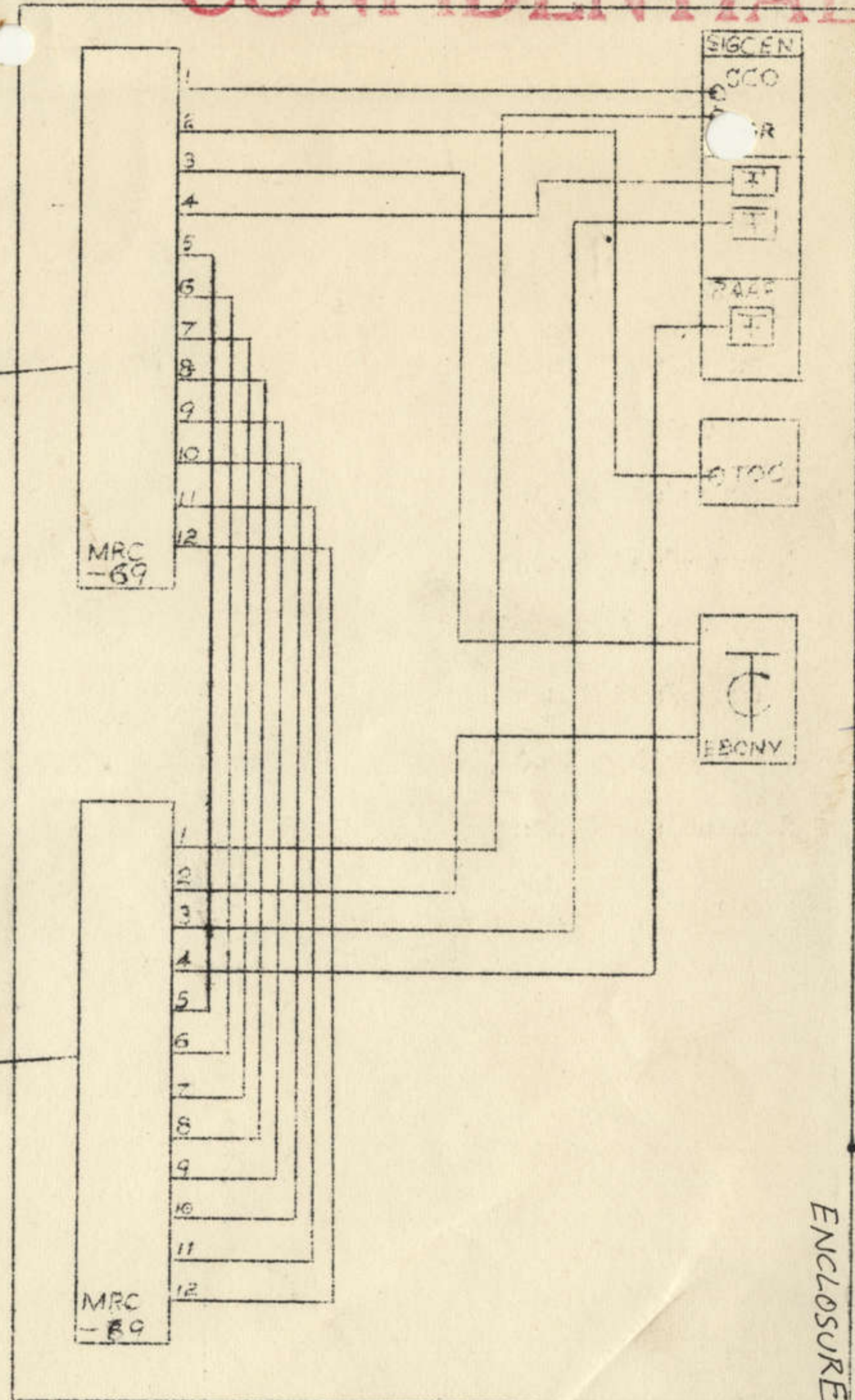
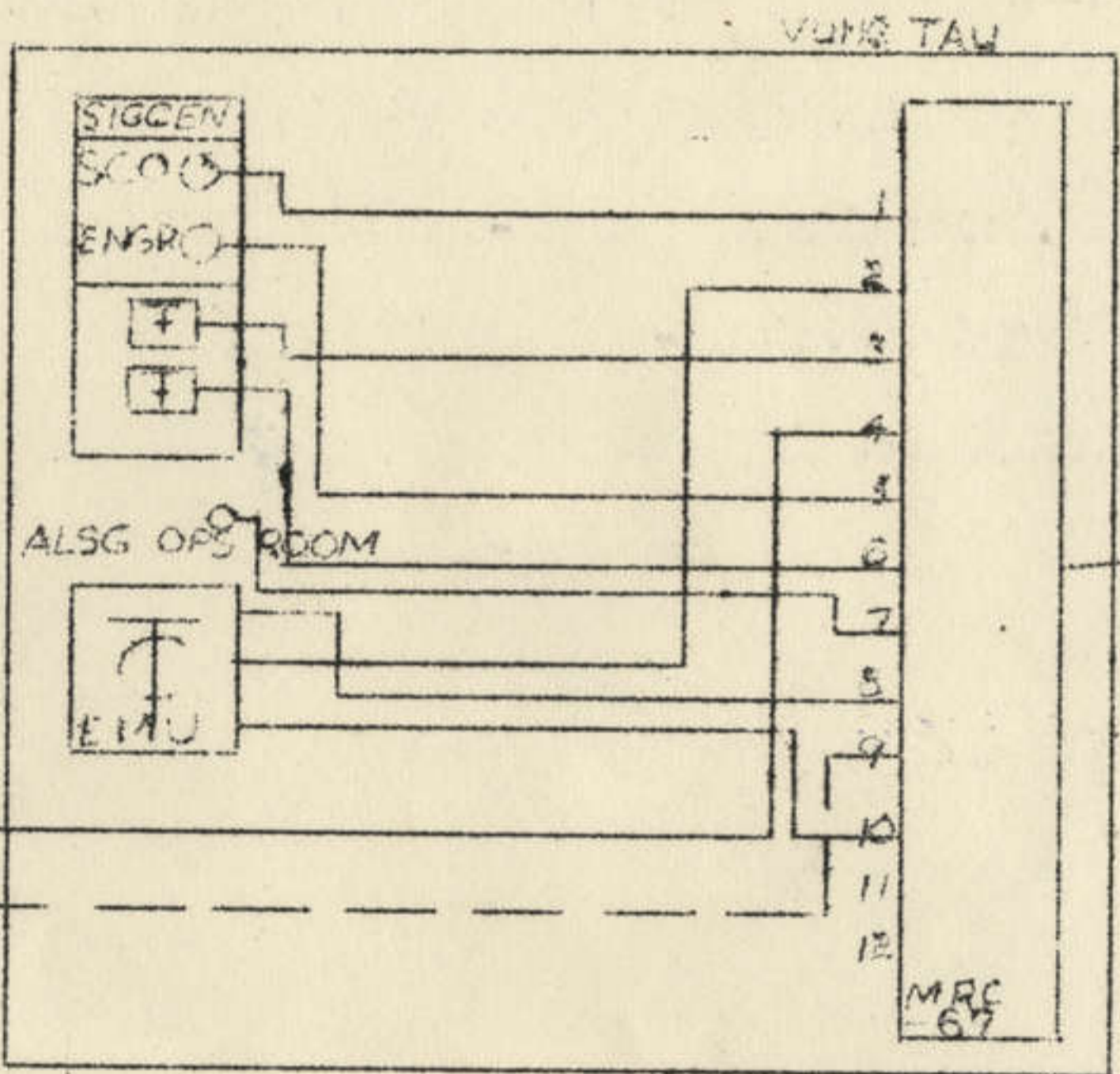
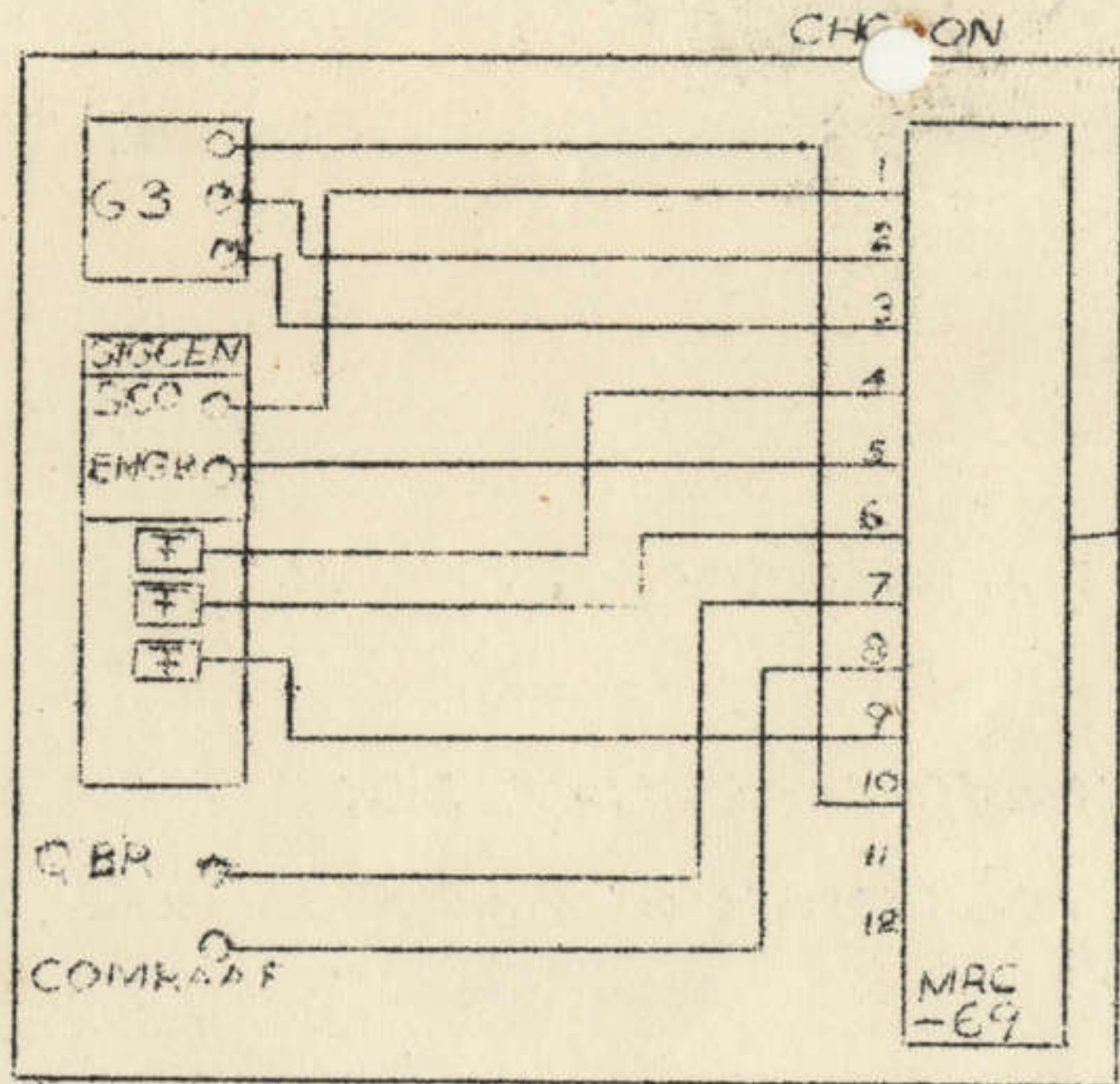
CONFIDENTIAL

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
SAIGON/VUNG TAU/ NUI DAT	1 Jul	0820 hrs	506 Sig Tp, TRC-24 system deployed with dets at HQ AFV, 1ALSG and HQ 1ATF	Annex O Enclosure 4 to Jun Diary
SAIGON/VUNG TAU NUE DAT	1 Jul	0800 hrs	Initial TRC-24 channel allocations made.	Annex C Enclosure 1
	1 Jul	2400 hrs	US duplex voice circuit HQ AFV - 6 RAR rear elms BIEN HOA closed	Annex O Enclosure 4 to Jun diary
VUNG TAU SAGON/VC HILL/ VUNG TAU/NUI DAT	7 Jul	0001 hrs	581 Sig Tp comcen VUNG TAU opened. US simplex tg circuit RAAF comcen VUNG TAU - RAAF HQ 1ATF not aval. Channel in Aust TRC-24 system allocated.	Annex O Enclosure 4 to Jun diary Annex C Enclosure 2
VUNG TAU	8 Jul		506 Sig Tp TRC-24 det deployed at VC HILL	
SAIGON/VUNG TAU	9 Jul		Unclas simplex US tg cct HQ AFV - TRANSUPFLT closed.	
CONFIDENTIAL				

WMA 510217



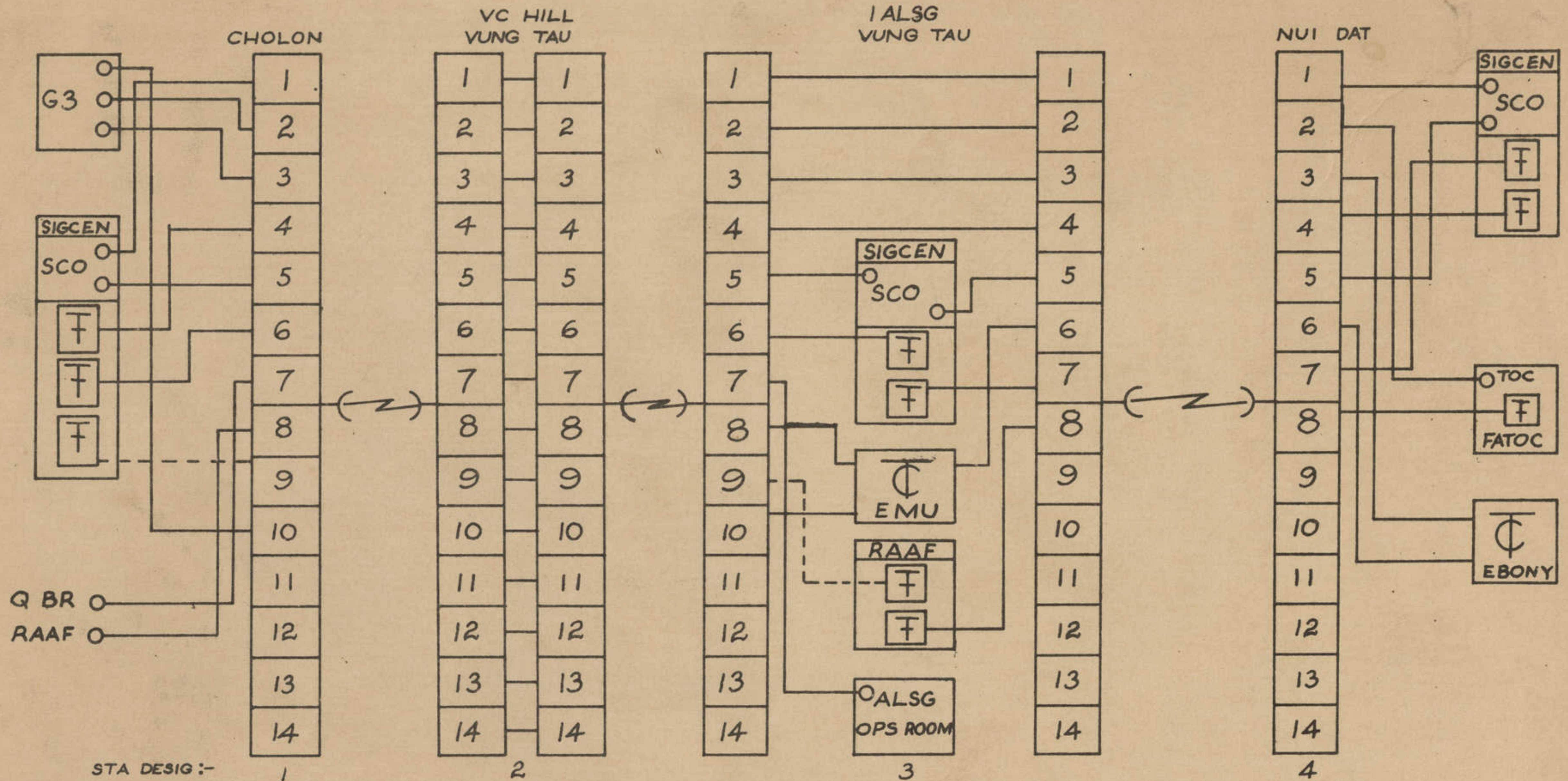
CONFIDENTIAL

ANNEX C
ENCLOSURE 1.0

CONFIDENTIAL

WNR DIRRY

AUST MRC-69 SYSTEM CHANNEL UTILIZATION
ALLOCATION AS AT 7 JUL 66



ANNEX C
ENCLOSURE 2

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET
SECRET

ANNEX O
ENCLOSURE 4.
04

R193:1:11

145 Sig Sqn
CHOLON
12 August, 1966

COMMS REPORT - JUL 66

General

1. This report covers the period 9 Jul 66 - 9 Aug 66 except when other wise indicated.

Point to Point Circuits

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2. Circuit Data Summaries are at Annexes 'A' to 'E'.
3. Aust TRC-24 system is generally satisfactory - no change to channel allocations on deployment of detachments.
4. Remaining voice circuit to 6 RAR rear elms closed 1 Jul 66.
5. TRC-75 dets ability to provide RTT back-up is improving but is limited by high equipment fault incidence.
6. Keying lines to Austcan VIETNAM transmitter and receiver sites still subject to failures generally due to accidental damage. They remain a major source of outages on MELBOURNE - SAIGON circuit.

Area Comms

-
7. SAIGON
- a. Graph of traffic handled by combined major relay station and sigcen HQ AFV is at Annex 'F'.
- b. With increase in tfc handled, operating areas are becoming very cramped. Building of huts to house HQ 145 Sig Sqn at Austcan VIETNAM transmitter site has been commenced with a view to expanding Austcan VIETNAM installations in the FWMAO building.
- c. Installation of a teleconference room adjacent to the HQ AFV Sigcen has begun.
- d. Installation of HQ AFV Inter-communications system (initially serving Comd, C of S, G2 and registry) was undertaken.
8. VUNG TAU
- a. Planning for a comcen installation has commenced.
- b. A detailed breakout of traffic is at Annex 'G'.

Tactical Comms

-
9. See Annex 'H'.

Major Equipment Problems

-
10. AN/TRC-75 and BUCKNELL Generators

A summary of AN/TRC-75 faults as they occur at dets together with 529 Sig Tp's comments on faulty equipments requiring their attention is at Annex 'I'.

/10. Details

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- 2 -

.....
10. Details of faults on BUCKNELL generators as they occur at dets are at Annex 'J' together with a summary of comments by 101 Fd Wksps on generators evacuated to them. The failure of BUCKNELL generators is particularly serious - for example, 15 of 18 generators were unserviceable as at 8 Aug 66. Availability of maintenance spare parts to 101 Fd Wksps is a major problem and urgent staff action is being taken on this. Subject to adequate spare parts and RAEME support being available to evacuate and replace eqpts/major assemblies it is considered that four to five dets can be kept operational for most of the time.

11. AN/PRC-47

Fault rate remains high - as a trial, some defective equipments are being evacuated to US repair installations.

12. Gen

The fault rate on telegraph, cipher, swbd and AN/PRC-47 equipments remains high. This must be accepted as a normal situation in this theatre. Attention is being given to amending maintenance scales to reflect this.

Frequencies

13. Authority for frequency management in the 20 mcx to 75.95 mcs band has passed from USARV to II FFORCEV. A re-allocation was made to AFV resulting in more frequencies being available.


(J.H. BIRD)
Maj

SECRET