

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Signals units

Item number: 6/4/7

Item: 145 Signal Squadron

Narrative

Annexes

[1-31 Aug 1966]

SECRET

ORIGINAL
~~DUPLICATE~~

Strike out where
not applicable

COMMANDERS DIARY

OF

145 Sig Sqn

Unit or Formation

1 Aug 66

To 31 Aug 66

From

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

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

Enclosure Numbers

† 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, starting at B.

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

CONTENTS

as well as map references), establishment, equipment

and orders given.

the day's fighting, including company movements.

Commander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

potential importance.

of officers, men and equipment.

equipment captured.

employed in the time not accounted for. The type of

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

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

(continued on back cover)

COMBAT DIARIES 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.

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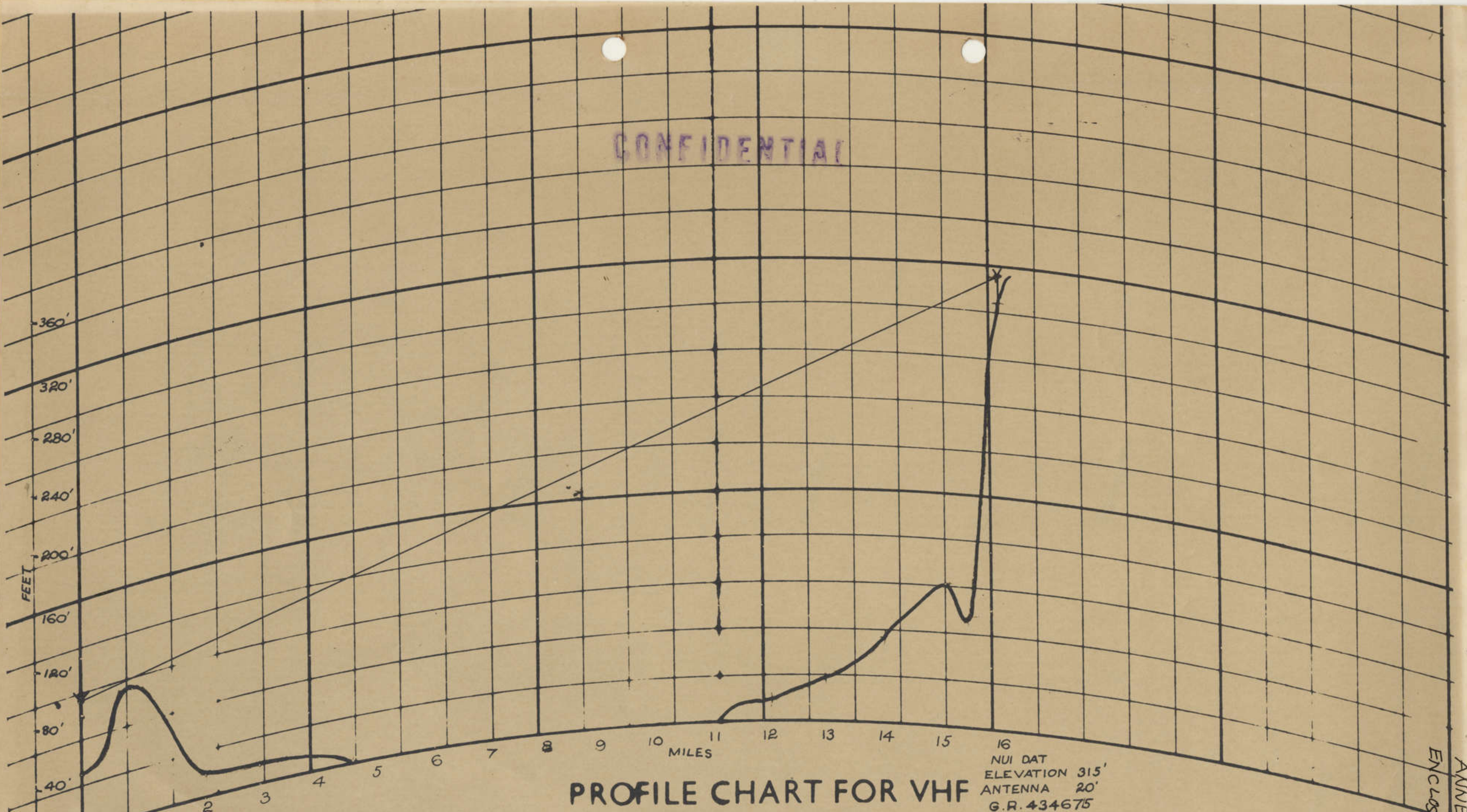
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CONFIDENTIAL



PROFILE CHART FOR VHF RADIO LINKS

CONFIDENTIAL $K = 4/3$

VUNG TAU
ELEVATION 50'
ANTENNA 45'
GR. 298447

VUNG TAU — NUI DAT
DISTANCE = 16 MILES

NUI DAT
ELEVATION 315'
ANTENNA 20'
G.R. 434675

ALLOWABLE LOSS 123.5 db
ESTIMATED LOSS 113 db

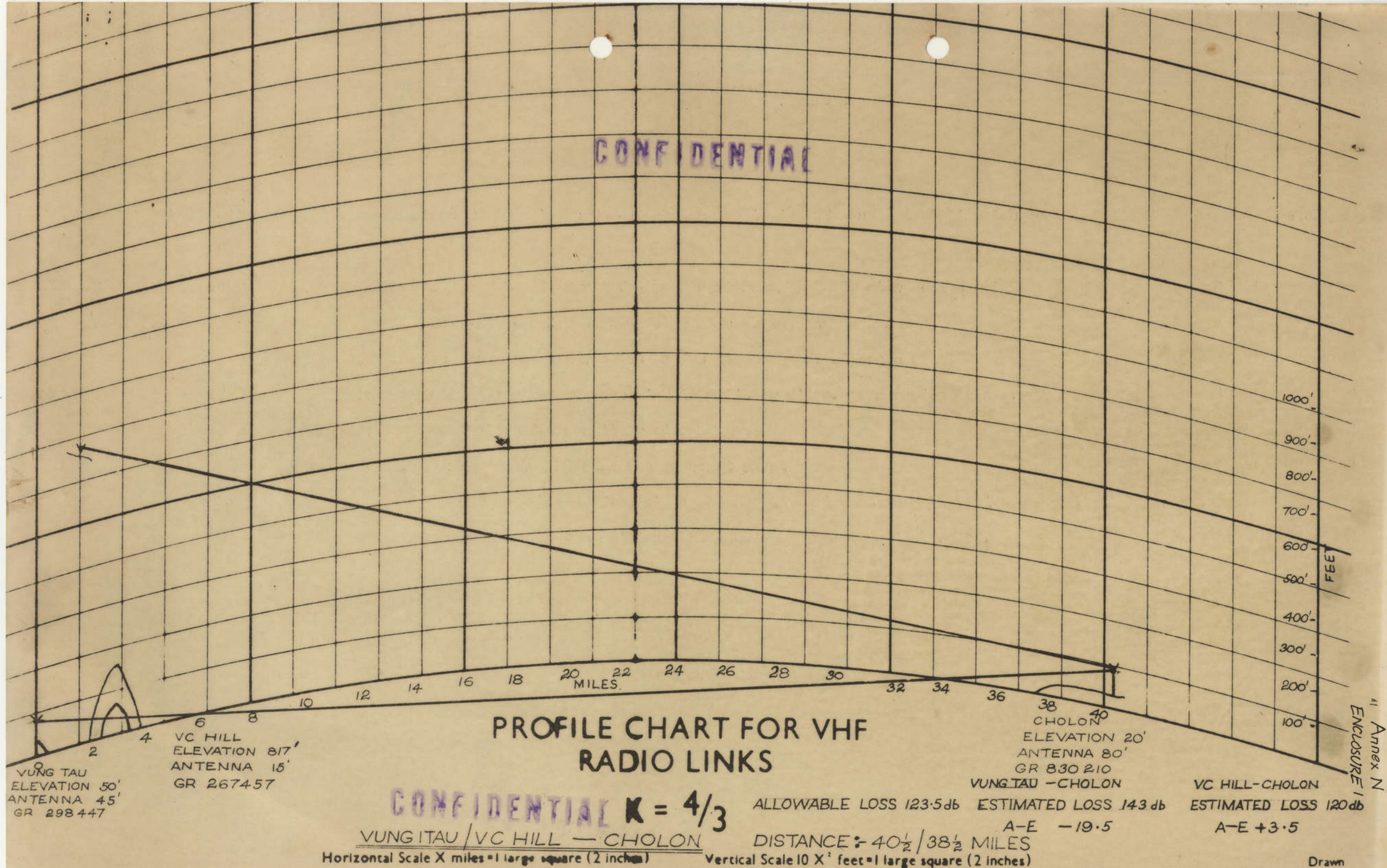
A-E + 10.5

Horizontal Scale X miles = 1 large square (2 inches)

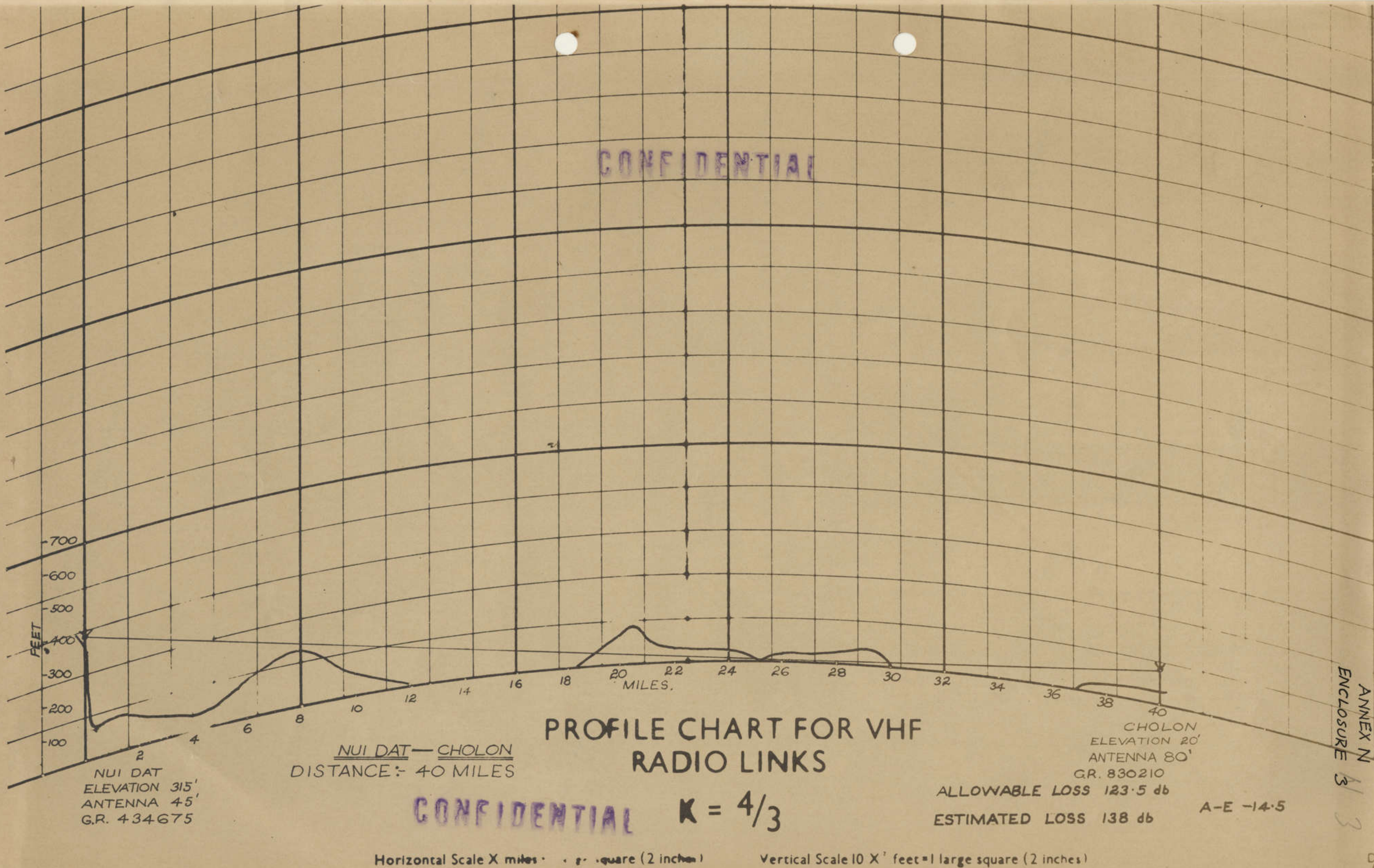
Vertical Scale 10 X' feet = 1 large square (2 inches)

ANNEXIN
ENCLOSURE 2

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL



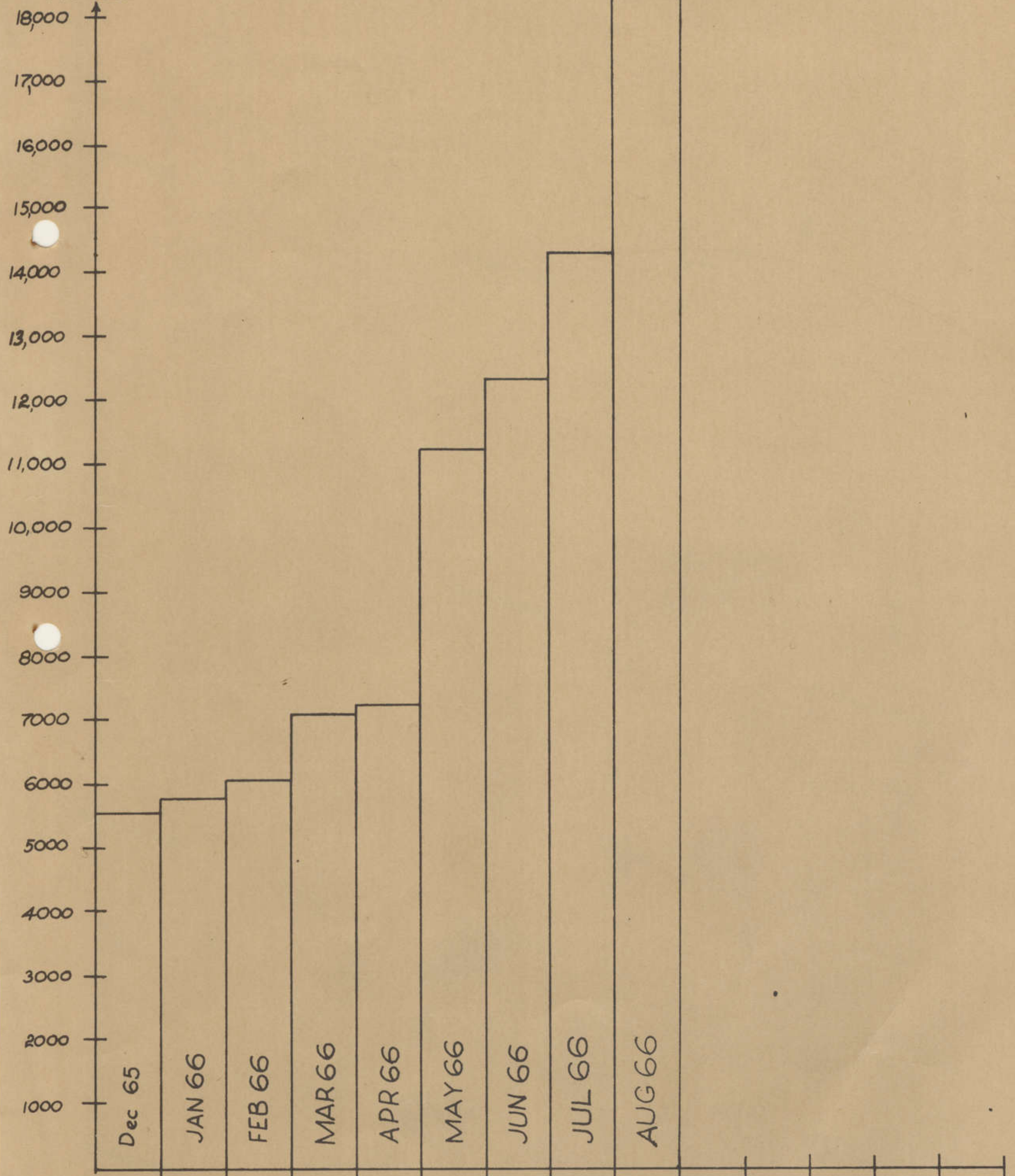
ANNEX N
ENCLOSURE 3

TRAFFIC VOLUME HQ AFV COMCEN

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ANNEX N
ENCLOSURE 4

NO. OF MESSAGES
HANDLED.



NOTE: Compiled as total of IN and OUT messages by actual message count.

CONFIDENTIAL

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

ANNEX O
ENCLOSURE 5
75

COMMS REPORT - AUG 66

General

1. This report covers the period 10 - 31 Aug 66 unless otherwise indicated.

Point to Point Circuits

2. Circuit Data Summaries. Annexes A to E.
3. Rear Link. There was a reduction in circuit availability; main causes were:
- a. 17 Aug 66. Lightning strikes at transmitter installation; main damage caused was destruction of both P.A. valves in both transmitters. Repair delayed by VC mortaring in vicinity of transmitter site at time of outage. Total circuit time lost was 14.6 hours.
 - b. 23 Aug 66. Failure of normal and emergency generators at HQ AFV. Total circuit time lost was 3.5 hours.
 - c. 23-25 Aug 66. Failure of air conditioning in HQ AFV Comcen led to corrupted keying after TT-76 and KW-7 equipments in use for approx 20 mins. Air conditioning repaired and fault cleared. See also para 14. Total circuit time lost approx 14.5 hours.
 - d. Gen. Increased fading, interference and noise experienced during month.
4. Alternate Rear Link from VUNG TAU. Construction of sloping v antennae commenced.
5. TRC-24. Satisfactory. Outages 8/9 Aug 66 caused by interference to station on VC Hill feature, VUNG TAU. Profile charts are at Annexes F to H for interest.
6. TRC-75, PRC-47. RTT availability improving; equipment fault incidence remains high. Operational commitment remains CW working to LSM operating between SAIGON and VUNG TAU and back-up to radio relay system.

/2.

7.

SAIGON-VUNG TAU

SECRET


~~SECRET~~

SECRET

SECRET

- 2 -

7. SAIGON - VUNG TAU Telegraph circuit converted to duplex
(Protected) operation 12 Aug 66.
8. VUNG TAU - NUI DAT (RAAF)
- a. Reliability and speed of restoration of channels provided by US appears to have improved.
 - b. AN/PRC-25 back-up approx 90% reliable and will probably improve.
 - c. Average handling time for all messages currently less than 10 mins.
 - d. At Annex 'I' is a diagram showing comms available for this circuit. The routing of these channels are shown in Annex 'J'.
 - e. Exclusive voice channel over AMF radio relay system made available wef 8 Sep.
9. SAIGON
- a. Graph of traffic handled by combined major relay station and sigcen HQ AFV is at Annex 'K'.
 - b. Teleconference room facility adjacent to HQ AFV sigcen operative from 13 Aug 66.
 - c. Construction generator shed at rear of FWMAO compound commenced.
 - d. Exclusive telephone line from HQ Coy AFV to Headquarters Activity Command Motor Pool laid 10 Aug 66. (Approx distance 3 miles)
10. VUNG TAU
- a. Power provided by engr area power plant unable to carry load; reverted to 5KW ONAN.
 - b. Planning for permanent sigcen in progress.
 - c. Traffic Data Summary - Annex 'L'.
- Eqpt
11. TT-76/KW-7 Corrupted keying fault evident under high ambient temperature conditions. Improved by use of US mod consisting of 27 K resistor in series with send contacts of TT-76. Effectiveness only proven for 50 baud operation; investigation continues.
12. General TRC-75, PRC-47, KW-7, SB-86P/T and generator (especially BUCKNELL) fault rates remain high; majority caused or aided by high ambient temperatures.
13. Training - AN/GRC-106 One day course for 103 Sig Sqn and 145 Sig Sqn operators and technicians run by US "New Equipment Training Team". (These teams deployed in theatre by US Electronic Comd for introduction of any new equipment to US Signals Units).


(J.H. BIRD)
Maj

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