

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Signals units

Item number: 6/4/9

Item: 145 Signal Squadron

Narrative

Annexes

[1-31 Oct 1966]

COVERING LETTER

Reference No.

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.

(Signature) *John C. Smith*

Maj

Appointment

OC 145 Sig Sqn

(OC Unit or senior staff officer)

SECRETORIGINAL
~~DUPLICATE~~Strike out where
not applicable**COMMANDERS DIARY**

OF

Unit or Formation 145 Sig SqnFrom 1 Oct 66To 31 Oct 66**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

.....	to	.....
.....	to	.....
1	to	3
4	to	.....
.....	to	.....
.....	to	.....
.....	to	.....
.....	to	.....
.....	to	.....
5	to	.....
.....	to	.....
.....	to	.....
.....	to	.....
.....	to	.....
.....	to	.....

† NIL

† ~~Recorded~~† ~~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 NII, 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

1 orders given.

ie day's fighting, including company movements.

mander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

tential importance.

o officers, men and equipment.

oment 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)

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 indicated.

8. The annexes are to be assembled in the groups shown on the cover. If there are no enclosures for an annex NII, 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

CENTS

(as well as map references), establishments, equipment

1 orders given

ic day's fighting, including company movements

unorder with regard to equipment, orders, organization

tential importance

o officers, men and equipment

ment captured

captured in the time and place of the. The type of

and to give work as much information as possible it is to be given, heard and received, routine returns, etc. All and the time of receipt or despatch are to be given.

be annexed, but need not give a precise of any of them.

(continued on back cover)

145 Sig Sqn
CHOLONORDERS FOR THE TRANSMITTER SITE GUARDGENERAL

1. The guard for the Transmitter Site will be provided by units of 1ATF or from 145 Sig Sqn.
2. The guard will consist of three members and will be commanded by a junior NCO. IF no NCO is available a private soldier will be nominated as IC guard.
3. Tpt will depart MERCURY House at 1730 hrs daily to convey guard to the Transmitter Site.
4. These orders are to be read to the guard by the Offr/NCO/IC guard prior to leaving MERCURY House to mount duty. A copy of these orders is also on the notice board at the Transmitter Site.
5. Immediately after arrival at the Transmitter Site the IC guard will report the guards presence by phone to the NCO IC guard of 1st Log TMP (Lynx 966 - or 967). Dial 0 and ask Operator for Lynx 966 or 967. Ask if any special orders have been issued for the night by the US authorities, ie practice alerts or any warnings of an attempted attack on the area.
6. The NCO IC guard is to ensure that the guard tent is left in a clean and tidy condition daily prior to dismounting duty at 0700 hrs.

ORDERS

1. Your tour of duty will be from 1800 hrs until 0700 hrs the following morning.
2. Your guard post bunker is located adjacent to the Transmitter Site building and is known as guard post number 9 in the overall 1st Logistic Command Transportation Motor Pool Security Plan.
3. You are to patrol the perimeter fence at irregular intervals and will check the Transmitter building every 15 minutes to ensure that the duty operator is awake.
4. You are to read the instructions for Treatment of electric shock, a copy is on the notice board in the Transmitter building. The operator who works in the Transmitter building is exposed to the risk of electric shock and you will, if the emergency arises carry out first aid as laid down in these instructions.
5. You are to carry two magazines of 20 rounds each, one of which is to be on your weapon. The weapon will not be loaded and you are not to chamber a round unless you intend to fire.
6. If intruders are encountered you are to shout "Halt/Dung lai" three times, if they fail to stop you will cock the weapon and fire three shots into the air. If they still fail to stop, you are to fire at them, aiming for the lower extremities of the body.
7. If fired upon, you are to take cover and return fire at positive, identifiable targets only.
8. If a general alert is sounded you will carry out any instructions as ordered by any US authority, contact the operator on duty and ask him to ring his System Control Officer who will contact the 145 Sig Sqn Duty Officer and warn him that a general alert has been sounded.

17 Oct 66

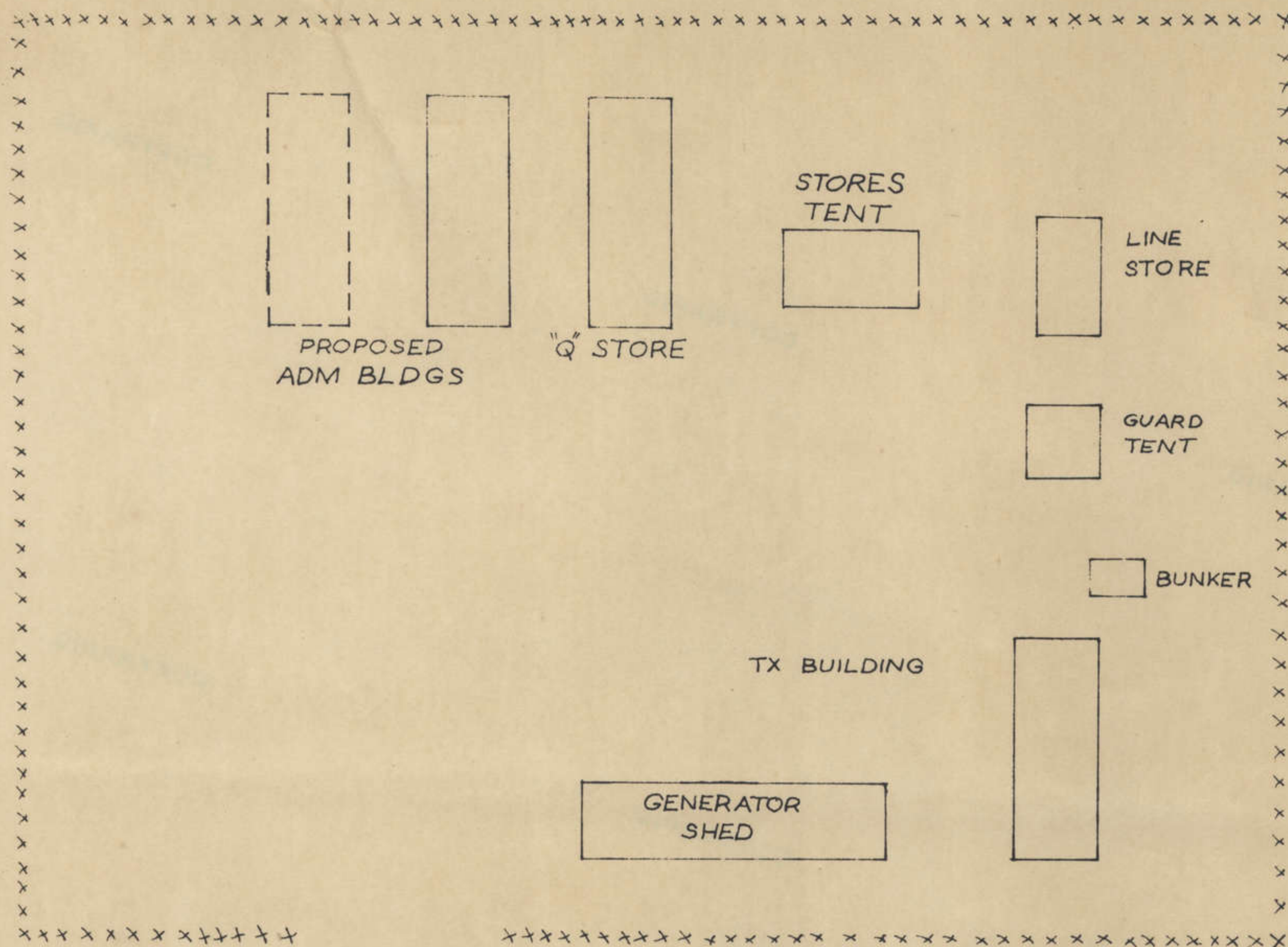
Annex A. 1st Log TMP Security Plan
Annex B. Post No 9 Plan

(J.H. BIRD)

Maj
OC 145 Sig Sqn

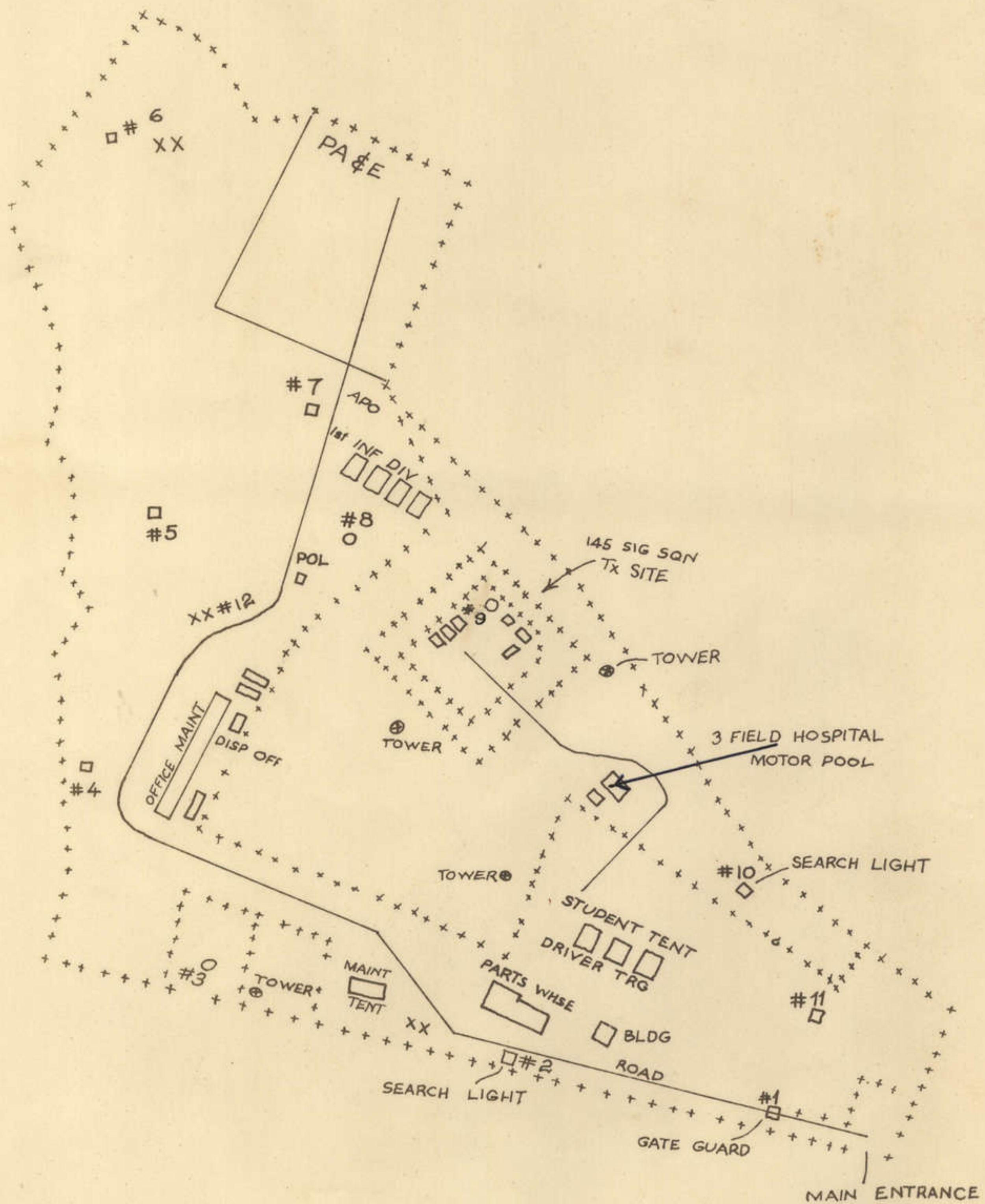
PLAN OF TRANSMITTER SITE

GUARD POST No 9



PROPOSED GUARD POSTS

Legend: □ guard tower
 ○ guard post
 XX 1 man walking post.



AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

VIETNAM

Headquarters
Australian Force Vietnam
12 Tran Quoc Toan
CHOLON

R193:1:10

22 Oct 66

Through FWMAO
Attention: Maj R. CARTER

To: COMUSMACV
Attention: MACV J6

CIRCUIT ACTIVATION REQUEST

- A. Requirement No: Headquarters Australian Force Vietnam October 1966 No 9.
- B. Type and Grade of Service Required: Sole user point to point unsecured telegraph circuit for emergency national traffic when all other means of communication have failed.
- C. Action Required: Start.
- D. Date and Period of Requirement: 1 Nov 1966. Permanent.
- E. Restoration Priorities: 1C on activation of circuit.
- F. Contact Personnel: Lt B.E. BROADRIBB, 145 Signal Squadron, DEER 251.
- G. Service Points:
- (1) Main Distribution Frame, System Control Office, 145 Signal Squadron, FWMAO Building, 12 Tran Quoc Toan, CHOLON.
 - (2) Main Distribution Frame, Tape Relay Facility, PHU LAM.
- H. Details of Service;
- (1) Circuit to be provided by COMUSMACV terminating wires at the above main distribution frames. Terminating equipment at PHU LAM to be provided by COMUSMACV; terminating equipment at FWMAO Building to be provided by COMAFV.
 - (2) 20 ma polar signalling: mark 1325 cps, space 1225 cps (TH/5-TG standard). Speed 50 bauds.
 - (3) The circuit is required to be available for activation on one hour's notice. In addition it is to be available for periodic testing; otherwise the requirement may be satisfied by a reserved circuit.
 - (4) It is certified that on the date service is required, terminating equipment and operating personnel will be available to the requested circuit.

K. Mackay
(K. MACKAY) Major General
Commander Australian Force
VIETNAM

Copy to: DCA-SAM

RESTRICTEDAUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCESVIETNAM

114 - 4 - 4

HQ 145 Sig Sqn
CHOLON

Oct 66

FTS - MELBOURNE - SAIGON CCT - OCT 661. DUPLEX SSB Circuita. SAIGON Send

2300 - 0900		F18B	23460
	Alts	F16B	19430
		F13B	18555
0900 - 2300		F 7B	13965
	Alts	F 6B	12155
		F 5B	10875

b. MELBOURNE Send(1) Main Transmitter

2300 - 0900		F13A	18525
	Alts	F16A	21780
0900 - 2300		F 6A	12155
	Alts	F 5A	10865

(2) Standby Transmitter

2300 - 0900		F 9A	14800
0900 - 2300		F 9A	14800
	Alts	F 3A	10310

(B.E. BROADRIBB)
Lt
DSORESTRICTED

SECRET

ANNEX D ENCLOSURE 4

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

VIETNAM

Headquarters
Australian Force Vietnam

R193:1:11

9 Nov 66

D Sigs (2)

COMMS REPORT - OCT 66

Point to Point Circuits

1. Circuit Data Summaries. Annexes A to E.
2. Rear Link.

a. Extensions to TAN SON NHUT runway will cause most masts at the Receiver Site to be above the height permissible for air safety. This and the construction of a second US Satellite terminal in the area, necessitates the relocation of one or both antennae - negotiations for space in the same general area are in progress. Because of the runway extensions and real estate problems STRATCOM receivers are to be removed to LONG BINH by 1 Jan 67, but the site will continue to be used for satellite comms.

b. Accidental keying line damage is a continuing nuisance and is likely to remain so until a reliable multi-channel radio bearer system is installed.

c. Installation of the AN/PRC-25 keying circuit and the associated VF rewiring in the System Control Centre has been completed.

d. Tests of single channel secure HF RTT on the alternative rear link have been successful. Prolonged traffic tests will be undertaken when SOPs, now in draft, are available. A detailed report will be issued later.

3. Radio Relay. The spare set of AN/TRC-24 and associated eqpt has been dismounted from the AN/MRC-69 shelter at SAIGON and installed in the System Control Centre. Operation from the shelter can be resumed at short notice. The shelter can be returned to normal in less than one hour. The change has led to economy in manpower and better system control and will be adopted at 1 ATF and 1 ALSG comms if and when possible.

4. RAAF Comms. NO significant changes - comms remain satisfactory.

Area Comms

5. Traffic volume graphs are at Annexes F and G.
6. See OC 103 Sig Sqn's DO at Annex H.

/Tactical Comms

SECRET

SECRET

- 2 -

Tactical Comms.

7. See Annex H.

Miscellaneous

8. HQ 145 Sig Sqn was relocated at the Transmitter Site PHU TO
(GIA DINH) - no change to signal or mailing address.

[Signature]
(J.H. BIRD)
Maj
SO Sigs HQ AFV

ANNEXES

A -	Monthly Circuit Data Summary	SAIGON/MELBOURNE
B -	Monthly Circuit Data Summary	SAIGON/VUNG TAU
C -	Monthly Circuit Data Summary	SAIGON/NUI DAT
D -	Monthly Circuit Data Summary	1 ALSG VUNG TAU/RAAF VUNG TAU
E -	Monthly Circuit Data Summary	VUNG TAU/NUI DAT
F -	Traffic Volume HQ AFV CCMCEN	
G -	Traffic Volume 1 ALSG CCMCEN	
H -	OC 103 Sig Sqn's DO	

SECRET

Quota H to H2 AFV
R193-1-115/9 Nov 66

RESTRICTED

MONTHLY CIRCUIT DATA SUMMARY

1. Circuit SAIGON - WATSONIA
2. Period 1 - 31 Oct 66
3. Schedule CONTINUOUS
4. Detail of Circuit Classified, Duplex, RTT, HF, SSB
5. Percentage Schedule Available to Traffic 90.4% (21.7 hrs daily)
6. Total Messages IN and OUT 9240
7. Traffic Breakout by
 - a. Precedence

Flash	2		
Immediate	1139	-	12.3%
Priority	3222	-	34.9%
Routine	4877	-	52.8%
 - b. Classification

Top Secret
Secret
Confidential
Restricted
Unclassified
8. Miscellaneous Comments

RESTRICTED

Ames B to HQ AFV
R193-1-11879 Nov 61

RESTRICTED

MONTHLY CIRCUIT DATA SUMMARY

1. Circuit SAIGON - VUNG TAU
2. Period 1 - 31 Oct 66
3. Schedule CONTINUOUS
4. Detail of Circuit Duplex, TTY , Classified, US/AUST Bearer ccts
5. Percentage Schedule Available to Traffic 86.6% (20,8 hrs daily)
6. Total Messages IN and OUT 4822
7. Traffic Breakout by
 - a. Precedence

Flash	Nil
Immediate	303 - 6.3%
Priority	2007 - 41.6%
Routine	2512 - 52.1%
 - b. Classification

Top Secret
Secret
Confidential
Restricted
Unclassified
8. Miscellaneous Comments

RESTRICTED

Amnesic e ve HQ AFV
0193-1-11 8/9/66

RESTRICTED

MONTHLY CIRCUIT DATA SUMMARY

1. Circuit SAIGON - BA RIA
2. Period 1 - 31 Oct 66
3. Schedule CONTINUOUS
4. Detail of Circuit Simplex, TTY, Classified, US/AUST Bearer ccts
5. Percentage Schedule Available to Traffic 89.2% (21.4 hrs daily)
6. Total messages IN and OUT 2627
7. Traffic Breakout by
 - a. Precedence

Flash	Nil
Immediate	168 - 6.4%
Priority	702 - 26.7%
Routine	1757 - 66.9%
 - b. Classification

Top Secret
Secret
Confidential
Restricted
Unclassified
8. Miscellaneous Comments

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

ANNEX D TO
HQ AFV R193:1:11
DATED NOV 66

MONTHLY CIRCUIT DATA SUMMARY

1. Circuit
1 ALSG - RAAF COMCEN VUNG TAU
2. Period
1 - 31 Oct 66
3. Schedule
Continuous
4. Detail of Circuit
Classified; **Simplex**, Tg, Land Line.
5. Percentage Schedule Available to Traffic
26%
6. Total Messages IN and OUT
1238
7. Traffic Breakout By
 - a. Precedence:

Flash	
Immediate	5.6%
Priority	32. %
Routine	62.4%
 - b. Classification:

Top Secret	
Secret	
Confidential	NOT aval
Restricted	
Unclassified	
8. Miscellaneous Comments

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

ANNEX E TO
HQ AFV R193:1:11
DATED NOV 66

MONTHLY CIRCUIT DATA SUMMARY

1. Circuit
1 ALSG - 1 ATF
2. Period
1 - 31 Oct 66
3. Schedule
Continuous
4. Detail of Circuit
Classified; Simplex, Tg, AUST/US bearer circuits.
5. Percentage Schedule Available to Traffic
90%
6. Total Messages IN and OUT
950
7. Traffic Breakout By
 - a. Precedence:

Flash	Nil
Immediate	21.4%
Priority	39.5%
Routine	39.1%
 - b. Classification:

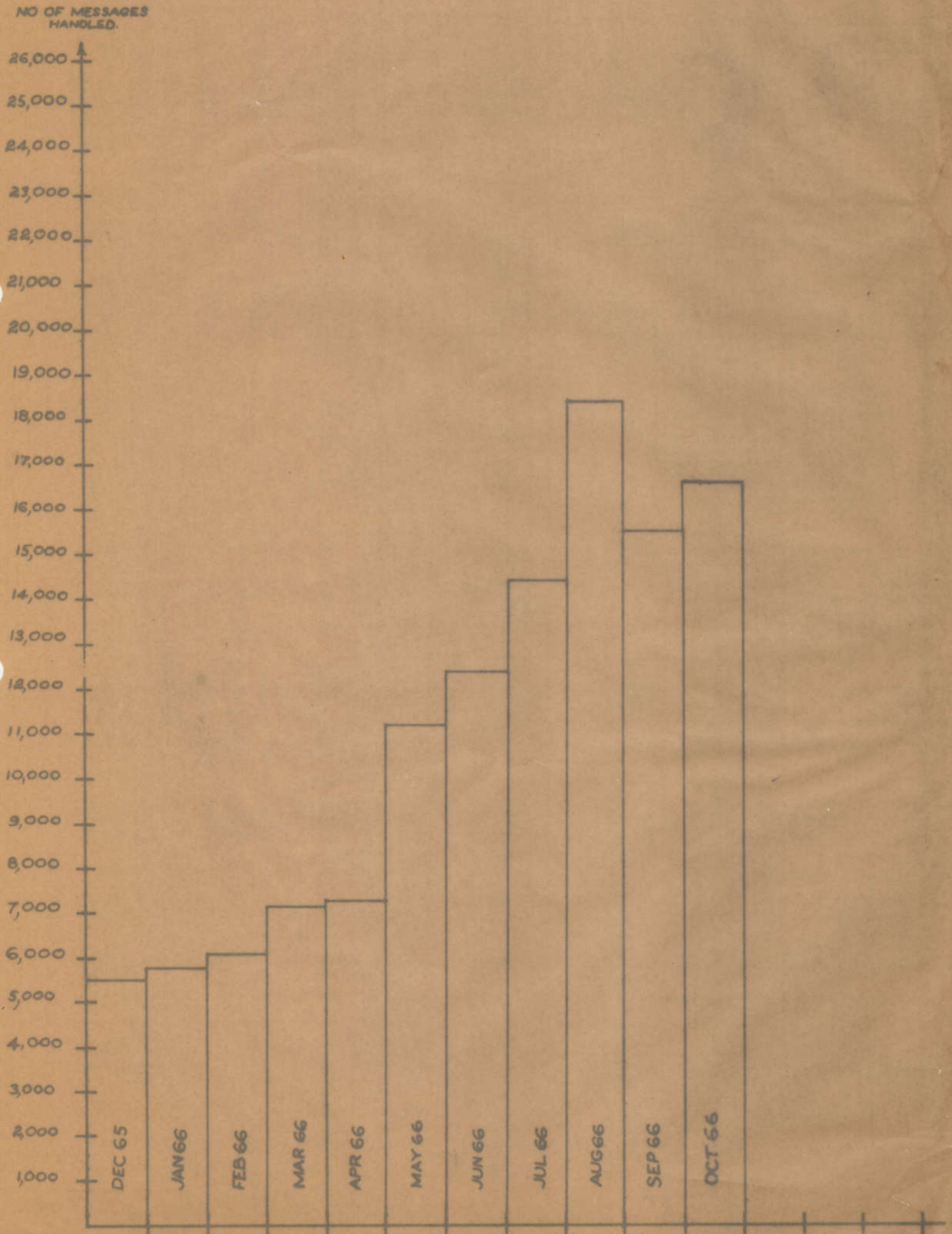
Top Secret	
Secret	
Confidential	NOT aval
Restricted	
Unclassified	
8. Miscellaneous Comments

RESTRICTED

CONFIDENTIAL

ANNEX F TO HQ AFV
R193-1-11 OF 9 Nov 66

TRAFFIC VOLUME HQ AFV COMCEN



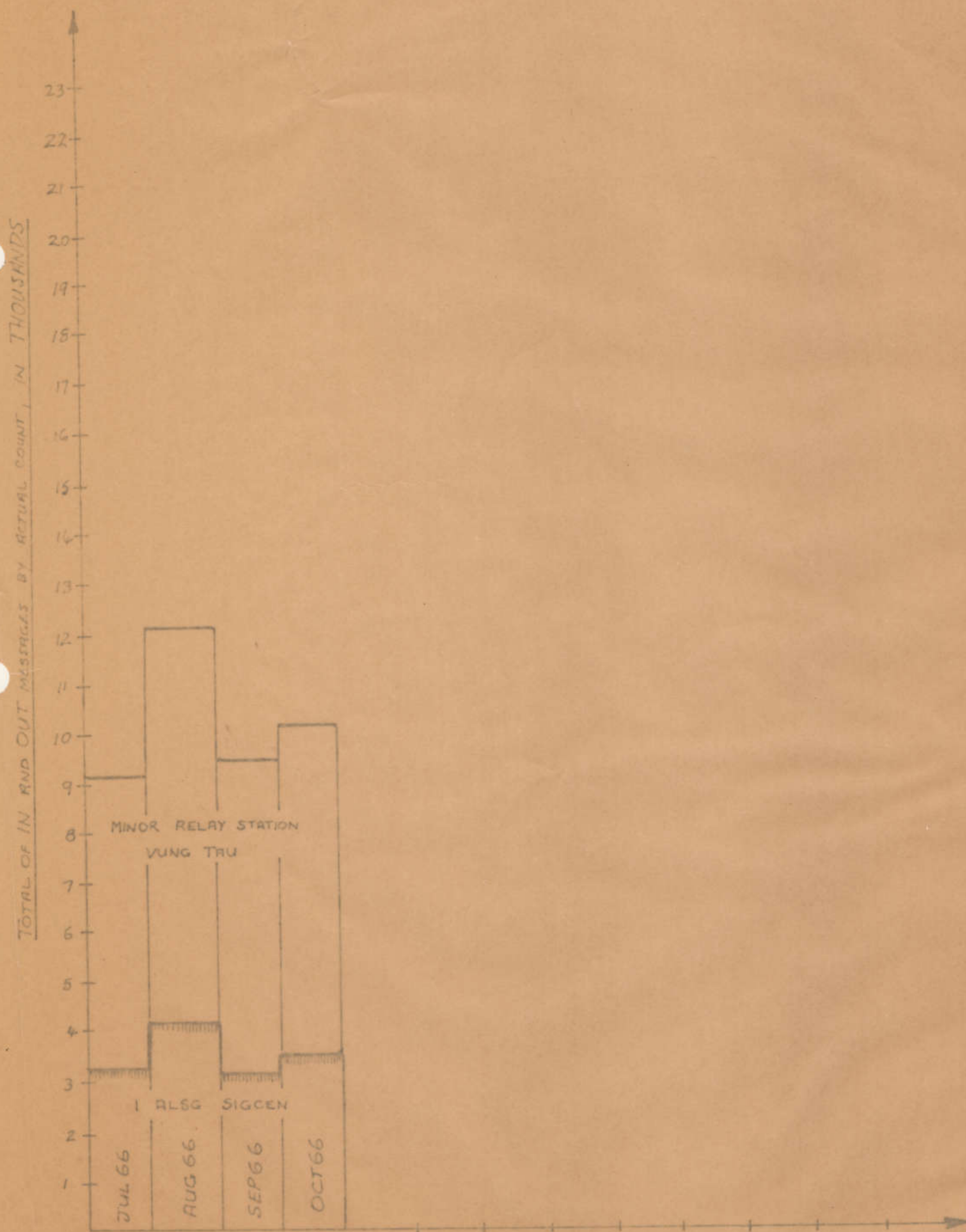
NOTE: Compiled as total of IN and OUT messages by actual message count.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

ANNEX G TO HQ AFV
R193-1-11 OF 9 Nov 66

TRAFFIC VOLUMES MINOR RELAY
STATION VUNG TAU & I ALSG SIGCEN



CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

VIETNAM

HQ AFV

AVERAGE STRENGTH FOR MONTH **OCTOBER**UNIT **145 Sig Sqn**1. Unit average strength. (See Note 1)

<u>Offrs</u>	<u>WOs</u>	<u>ORs</u>
4.48	3	71.93

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

<u>Offrs</u>	<u>WOs</u>	<u>ORs</u>
--------------	------------	------------

3. Hospitalised US Hospitals. (See Note 3)

Total bed/days :

<u>Offrs</u>	<u>WOs</u>	<u>ORs</u>
--------------	------------	------------

Alvin G. Caff Maj.
 SO / OC ADJUTANT
 145 Sig Sqn

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 R & C.

Note 3. Personal particulars and dates member hospitalised US Hospitals NOT required. Show only bed/days per Offrs and WOs and ORs.

e.g., 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.