

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Engineer units

Item number: 4/2/11

Item: 1 Field Squadron

[also includes 1 Field Squadron
Workshop and 21
Engineer Support Troop]

Narrative

[1-31 May 1966]

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.

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

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 Fd Sqr AE
17033

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj W W LENNON

| Place and grid reference | Date | Time | Event or information | Annex letter and enclosure number |
|--------------------------|-----------|------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Casula | 2 May | 2300 | Received Deficiency returns 6 May (E Comd Q 007320) | |
| | 2 May | 2300 | Received Training suggestions request (E Comd G OPS 007326) | |
| Casula | 3 May | 0430 | Received Trg suggestions from SVN (AAFV G 5624) | |
| | 3 May | 0500 | Received HMAS SYDNEY loading data (28/601/289 Q(MOV)) | |
| Casula | 4 May | 0300 | Sent Amendments to MOV DATA (1 Fd Sqn Q013) | |
| | 4 May | 0445 | Received Unit veh preparation (E Comd Q 007340) | |
| Casula | 6 May | 0400 | Sent WF266 and WF 276 for unit (1 Fd Sqn 1/66 - 9/66 incl) | |
| | 6 May | 0430 | Received Readiness states from 5 May (E Comd Q 007346) | |
| CASULA | 6 May | 0600 | Received op order J1 (HQ 1 ATF Ops 5330) | |
| CASULA | 10 May | 1300 | Received pay requirements for embarkation (E Comd Q007358) | |
| | 10 May | 1300 | Received Readiness States Returns (E Comd Q007346) | |
| | 10 May | 0900 | Lecture by Maj HUNT (Int) to all tps on motivation for fighting in VN. | |
| CASULA | 11 May 66 | 0300 | Received amendments for Special Sups for embarkation (E Comd Q007370) | |

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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)
Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION 1 Fd Sqr (Gp)

MONTH AND YEAR May 66

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj W.W. LENNON

| Place and grid reference | Date | Time | Event or information | Annex letter and enclosure number |
|--------------------------|-----------|-------|---|-----------------------------------|
| CASULA | 12 May 66 | | Received details of pay prior to embarkation (E Comd Q007358) | |
| | " | | Received Alterations to readiness states (E Comd Ops 008846) | |
| | " | | Unit Lecture on Hygiene | |
| | 13 May 66 | | Visit by Adm Offr 1 Tp and 14 ors to Army trials & research (COMPTON VALE) Vic to observe tunnels and methods of clearance by Gas Turbine. | |
| | 13 May | | Received additional rec for Readiness States. (HQ LIVERPOOL G186) | |
| | 17 May 66 | 2330 | Received details of Veh not avail for 1 Fd WKSP. (E Comd Q008865) | |
| | 19 May 66 | 0300 | Received details of passes for relatives. (HQ LIVPL G194) | |
| | " | 0545 | Received sig re Movements & Shipping. (E Comd Q Mov 1452) | |
| | 24 May 66 | 1400 | Advance Pty incl OC & 9 others depart RICHMOND Aistrip . | |
| | " | | All equipment and loaded aboard HMAS SYDNEY. | |
| | 25 May 66 | 1200H | Advance Pty arrived SAIGON and depart for VUNG TAU to arrive there at 1200 1245 hrs H. | |

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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION 1 Fd Sqn (RAE) Gp/

MONTH AND YEAR May 66

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj W.W. LENNON

| Place and grid reference | Date | Time | Event or information | Annex letter and enclosure number |
|--------------------------|-----------|-------|--|-----------------------------------|
| CASULA | 24 May 66 | 0500Z | HMAS SYDNEY departed SYDNEY with 129 all ranks from 1 Fd Sqn. | |
| | 25 May 66 | | Loading of SS BOONAROO in process, ETD SYDNEY unknown. | |
| " | 26 May | | SS BOONAROO Departed SYDNEY . Received advise that 16 items of Engr plant left on docks in SYDNEY, details not known. | |
| VUNG TAU | 27 May 66 | 1130H | 1 Fd Sqn WKSP (RAEME) adv pty of 6 all ranks arrived VUNG TAU. | |
| " | 28 May | | OC attended TF Comd recce of NUI DAT feature, located possible water source approx GR YS437672. NUI DAT apparently suitable material for rd const. | |
| | 29 May | 1200H | 21 Engr Sp Tp adv pty arrived VUNG TAU, 3 all ranks. | |
| " | " | | OC Liason visit to 65th Engr Bn (US) with 25 Inf Div loc CU CHI. Obtained local info on geology and water resources info. | |
| " | 30 May 66 | | 7 Offrs & 1 Sgt received briefing from MACV 11 Const Engrs special team on new equip for tunnel demo. Eqpt consists of acetylene generators plus accessories and appears to be very affective, based on US use in tac ops to date. | |
| | 31 May 66 | | OC, Tp Comds 3 Tp & 21 Engr Sp Tp did gd recce in APC's of 1 APC Sqn in vic NUI DAT. Recce revealed well at GR 437672 containing more than 15 ft water, 5 ft diam. Took samples of water for med checks. | |

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

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)
Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION 1 Fd Sq (RAE) Gp

MONTH AND YEAR May 66

REFERENCE MAP 6340 3 SOUTH.

COMMANDING OFFICER Maj W.W. LENNON

| Place and grid reference | Date | Time | Event or information | Annex letter and enclosure number |
|-------------------------------|-----------|------|--|-----------------------------------|
| NEXXAT VUNG TAU | 31 May 66 | |OC, Tp Comds recce, cont Studied drainage problems and initial task requirements. Requested loan of 2 x D Pulls from 17 Const Sqn till 30 Jun 66 - approved. Recce Offr visit to 173 Bde (US) for traces of tunnels encountered in LONG PHUC village. Further info to follow. | |