PRONTO IN SOUTH VIETNAM
1962 - 1972

By Denis Hare OAM BEM
This book is dedicated to those who served with the Royal Australian Corps of Signals in South Vietnam

Signals Roll of Honour

Signalman B. A. Logan
Corporal D. J. Donnelly
Signalman A. H. Young
Signalman D. E. Abraham
Warrant Officer Class Two M. W. T. Gill, MiD
Signalman S. T. Moore
Signalman D. A. B. Wallis

145 Sig Sqn, KIA, 28 March 1967
104 Sig Sqn, AK, 9 August 1967
104 Sig Sqn, KIA, 16 May 1968
104 Sig Sqn, KIA, 29 Sept 1968
AATTV, KIA, 6 May 1969
110 Sig Sqn, Died, 25 Aug 1970
110 Sig Sqn, Died, 17 March 1972

Lest We Forget

October 2021 - Version 4
Prepared from old notes, old memories and old Army records, for the enjoyment of past and future communicators and their families
by Denis Hare OAM BEM

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The base material for this Web based book was from an old document draft 'Royal Australian Corps of Signals Corps History - The South Vietnam Campaign 1962 - 1972' which was attached to the GOC's Exercise Hindsight 1971, exercise papers. Gerry Lawrence prepared the draft. Thank you Gerry for the foresight because without the document, this Web based book would not have been possible.

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Diagrams
Denis Hare (All)

Corrections or additional information, including photographs and other material can be passed to:

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PREFACE

Communications have always been an important factor in war - sometimes the decisive one. When the great potential of mobility can be exploited by optimum communications, the products are those which commanders through the ages have always sought - flexibility, economy of force, surprise, and the ability to concentrate, deploy, regroup or disperse rapidly.

In Vietnam, probably for the first time in history, communications were able to match in dimension and efficiency the great advances in mobility. The helicopter, allied with the more traditional means of tracked vehicles, aircraft, small ships and boats, made possible the application of concepts which were not new in principle but which previously could never be more than partially implemented. These concepts extended into every field of activity - tactical, logistic and administrative. But primarily they depended for their success on communications, because without them the many complex activities which had to proceed simultaneously and in co-ordination could not have been controlled. Command in any military sphere does not automatically confer the ability to control; communications alone can confer that.

Major General S. C. Graham, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C.
8th June 1977

(Brigadier Graham commanded 1st Australian Task Force in 1967)
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- **709 Signal Troop - Forward and Rear Signals for AAFV**  
  (Authorized Strength = 50 - September 1965)
- **527 Signal Troop - Forward and Rear Signals for AAFV (additional manpower)**  
  (Authorized Strength = 28 - September 1965)
- **547 Signal Troop - Electronic Warfare Support for 1 ATF**  
  (Authorized Strength = 36 - June 1968)
- **103 Signal Squadron - Task Force Signals for 1 ATF**  
  (Authorized Strength = 124 - June 1966)
- **104 Signal Squadron - Task Force Signals for 1 ATF (replaced 103 Sig Sqn)**  
  (Authorized Strength = 146 - June 1968)
- **110 Signal Squadron - Force Signals for AFV (replaced 145 Sig Sqn)**  
  (Authorized Strength = 243 - June 1968)
- **145 Signal Squadron - Force Signals for AFV**  
  (Authorized Strength = 173 - June 1966)
- **Detachment 152 Signal Squadron - Signals for SAS Sqn’s, 1 ATF**  
  (Authorized Strength = 16 - June 1968)
- **AAAGV Signal Detachment - Rear Signals for AAAGV**  
  (Authorized Strength = 12 to 15)

Note: RASIGS personnel also deployed with HQAFV, HQ1ATF, HQ1ALSG, AATTv, AAAGV, 1 Aust Civil Affairs Unit, 32 Small Ship Squadron and other Units. Members on detachment from 127 Sig Sqn are either detail as part of a RASigs South Vietnam Unit or HQAFV.