

# CONFIDENTIAL

BC

17 August 1970

Operational Report of 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery (UIC: WAISAA) Period Ending 31 July 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (RI) (U)

One Legion of Merit

Two Bronze Star Medals (Valor)

Twelve Bronze Star Medals (Achievement)

One Army Commendation Medal (Valor)

Thirteen Army Commendation Medals (Achievement)

Fifty Nine Army Commendation Medals (Service)

Four Air Medals

(7) Religious services were provided by chaplains from the 1st Cavalry Division (AM) and the 23d Artillery Group for all units.

## B. Operations

(1) At present, the batteries of this battalion are located as shown in inclosure 1.

At the beginning of the period, the mission of each firing battery was:

Battery A, 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery, GS, II FORCEV.

Battery B, 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery, GS, II FORCEV.

Battery C, 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery, GS, II FORCEV.

(2) During this period, the battalion participated in several operations and displaced units as indicated:

a. On 1 May 1970, 175mm platoon, Battery C, departed Phuoc Vinh at 0815 hours. Convoy closed FSB Jarrett at 1530 hours without incident.

b. On 3 May 1970, 175mm platoon, Battery C, departed FSB Jake at 1400 hours. Closed An Loc at 1800 hours after losing one 175mm gun due to an enemy mine. One NCO, a member of 378th Maintenance Company contact team riding in the convoy, was medivaced with a back injury.

c. On 4 May 1970, 175mm platoon, Battery C, departed An Loc. Convoy closed FSB Wade at 1145 hours without incident.

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d. On 5 May 1970, 175mm platoon, Battery C, departed FSB Jarrett. Convoy closed Lai Khe at 1725 hours. One 175mm gun developed mechanical trouble and was towed into Phu Loi for repair.

e. On 6 May 1970, 175mm platoon (1 tube), Battery C, departed Lai Khe. Convoy closed FSB Wade at 1330 hours, without incident.

f. On 6 May 1970, Battery B (2 tubes 8" and 2 tubes 175mm) departed Song Be. Convoy closed FSB Compton at 1134 hours without incident.

g. On 6 May 1970, Battery A, 8" platoon departed FSB Burkette. Convoy closed FSB Eagle at 1435 hours with one tube. The second tube was damaged enroute and was towed to Quan Loi for repair. The howitzer fell from a narrow bridge overburning in the stream below crushing one EM to death.

h. On 13 May 1970, Battery B (2 tubes 8" and 2 tubes 175mm) departed FSB Compton. Convoy closed Song Be at 1550 hours without incident.

i. On 14 May 1970, Battery A (2 tubes 8" and 2 tubes 175mm) departed FSB Eagle 1. Convoy closed FSB Wade at 1355 hours without incident.

j. On 14 May 1970, Battery C (4 tubes 175mm) departed FSB Wade. Convoy closed FSB Gloria (Bu Dop) at 1640 hours without incident.

3) The number of missions fired and the ammunition expended are indicated below for the reporting period:

UNIT	MISSIONS FIRED	AMMUNITION EXPENDED	
		175mm	8"
Battery A, 6th Bn 27th Arty	3304	6111	3236
Battery B, 6th Bn 27th Arty	5246	4341	4991
Battery C, 6th Bn 27th Arty	<u>2751</u>	<u>6850</u>	_____
TOTALS:	11301	17302	8227
		<u>155mm</u>	
Battery C, 1st Bn 27th Arty		1881	

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**C. Training**

(1) A vigorous and continuous cross training program of personnel is necessary due to the constant changover of personnel and certain shortages in critical MOSs. The most significant skills developed in this program continues to be fire direction personnel and Gun Section Chiefs.

(2) In-country schools are being utilized to upgrade assigned personnel through attendance at Officer Fire Direction school, Generator Operators and Maintenance courses, and driver training conducted at battalion level. Advanced training gained through these classes has enhanced unit operations.

(3) New arrivals in the unit have continued to receive in-country replacement training within seven days of arrival. This training is being conducted by the 1st Cavalry Division (AM) Academy at Bien Hoa and provides a firm basis for rapid adaptability of the individual to a combat environment.

**(4) Mandatory Training Subjects:**

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>HOURS REQUIRED</u>	<u>HOURS COVERED</u>
Character Guidance	3	3
Command Information	13	13
Geneva Convention	1	1
Fire Prevention	3	3
Weapons Training	12	12
Intelligence Training	3	3
Sapper Tactics	1	1
Mobility Training	39	39
Medical Training	2	2
Communications Training (COMSEC)	4	4
Psychological Operations	1	1

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## D. Intelligence

(1) During the reporting period aerial observers of this battalion flew 140 VR missions consisting of 404 hours which resulted in 5 significant sightings and 4 fire missions.

(2) Target surveillance credited this battalion with 17 confirmed enemy killed by artillery (KBA). Attacks against hard target complexes resulted in the battalion destroying one bridge, one 2½ ton truck, two 3/4 ton trucks, forty six bunkers, fifteen hootches, four fighting positions, and uncovered thirty trails showing recent use by the enemy.

(3) Survey operations during the reporting period established a total of seven orienting stations, seven orienting lines, and seven battery centers.

E. Logistics and Maintenance. The battalion engaged in normal supply, maintenance, and ammunition support and service activities during the reporting period. Daily resupply of ammunition was made to Battery B, 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery at Song Be. Ammunition and rations were flown daily to Battery C, 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery at FSB Gloria. During the Cambodian operation, daily resupply by air was made to FSB Jake, FSB Jarrett, FSB Compton, and FSB Eagle 1. During the later part of the reporting period, the battalion started preparing for the Annual General Inspection scheduled for the period 10-15 August 1970.

F. Organization. To assist in the preparation for the Annual General Inspection the battalion organized a Best Army Maintenance (BAM) Committee. Under the chairmanship of the Battalion Executive Officer, the other members of the committee are the S-4, Battalion Motor Officer, Battalion Maintenance Warrant, and Battalion Motor Sergeant. Analyzing the maintenance posture of the battalion at weekly meetings, the BAM committee reviews the battalion deadline status and determines corrective action to be taken to bring all equipment to a green condition at the earliest possible date. The BAM committee organized a battalion GMMI team composed of the most qualified personnel available in the battalion in the areas of TAMS, track maintenance, wheel maintenance, engineer, special purpose, small arms, and chemical. This team was dispatched under the supervision of the Battalion Maintenance Warrant to each battery and stayed as long as necessary to detect and correct all shortcomings and deficiencies in these areas within the batteries. The average time spent at each battery by the team was three days.

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