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DATE 12/26/93
BY SP-5 WBA/STW/4/22

# Operational Report Lessons Learned Headquarters 6/27th Artillery Period Ending 31 Jul 1969

27TH ARTILLERY, 6TH AVN BDE 31 JULY 1969

158

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AVHCC-DST (8 Aug 69) 4th Ind  
SUBJECT: Operational Report of 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery (VIC: MAISAA)  
for Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1) (U) 20 SEP 1969

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY, VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT,  
APO 96558

This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1969 from Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery and concurs with the report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

  
C. D. WILSON  
1LT, AGC  
Assistant Adjutant General

Cy form:  
6th Bn, 27th Arty  
II FFV

MFR: ORLL was staffed through:

G3 OPNS: MAJ Weaver/4636  
G1: LTC Yellman/4455

ACTION OFFICER: MAJ NGWAK/rad/4433

CONCURRENCE/NONCONCURRENCE: Not required.

Suitable for Commander's Notes: Yes/No.

COL. READ, ACOFS, G3  
RECORD COPY RETURN TO AVHCC-DST

228-03

7 NOV 1969  
To list

CH DST DIV	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CH MS BR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CH DCG BR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CH TNG BR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A/O	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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AVPBC-EE-H (2 Sep 69) 3d Ind  
 SUBJECT: Operational Report of 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery (UIC: 6A98AA)  
 Period Ending 31 July 1969, NCS GSPOR-65 (RI) (U)

DA, HQ II FFORCEV, APO San Francisco 96266 5 SEP 1969

THRU: Commanding General, US Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHUC(DST), APO 96375

Commander-In-Chief, US Army Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT, APO 96558

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the  
 Army, Washington, D.C. 20310

This headquarters has reviewed and concurs with the Operational Report -  
 Lessons Learned of the 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery for the period ending  
 31 July 1969, as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

B. G. MACDONALD  
 1LT, AGC  
 Asst AG

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AUTHORITY  
DATE 9/22

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AVFB-FAC (8 Aug 69) 2d Ind  
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery  
for Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS (SPOR-65 (U))

DA, HEADQUARTERS, II FIELD FORCE VIETNAM ARTILLERY, APO 96266 S Y AL

TO: Commanding General, II Field Force Vietnam, ATTN AVFB-FAC APO 96266 S Y AL

The quarterly report of the 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery accordingly reflects the operations and lessons learned during the reporting period.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

  
AQUILA E. STIPE  
Major, FA  
Adjutant

7 NOV 1969

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AVFB-C (8 Aug 69) 1st Ind  
SUBJECT: Operational Report of 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery, (VIC: WADSAA)  
Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCB-CRFR-63 (RI) (U)

To, Headquarters, 23d Artillery Group, APO 96289, 21 August 1969

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development,  
Department of the Army, Washington, D.C. 20310

Commanding General, II Field Force Vietnam Artillery  
ATTN: AVFB-FAC, APO 96266

1. (U) This Headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report for the period ending 31 July 1969, from 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery.

2. (U) Pertinent comments follow:

a. Reference Section 2, Paragraph 2b: Concur. Additionally, wooden or SSP tracks can be constructed in order to facilitate movement from storage areas to firing positions.

b. Reference Section 2, Paragraph 2g: Non-concur. This Headquarters maintains an up-to-date roster of hospitalized personnel. Information pertaining to a patient's location, status, and expected disposition can be obtained by contacting the S1 Section, this Headquarters. ✓

U. BRINES  
Colonel, FA  
Commanding

Copy Furnished:  
6th Bn, 27th Arty

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BY 4/32

# DISPOSITION FORM

For use of this form, see AR 340-15; the proponent agency is The Adjutant General's Office.

REFERENCE OR OFFICE SYMBOL  AVHGA-P	SUBJECT <b>CONFIDENTIAL</b> ORIL for the 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery
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TO Surgeon	FROM ACofS, G1	DATE 11 SEP 1969 LTC Yellman/cjj/4455	CMT 1
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1. Reference the attached ORIL for the 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery.
2. Request your comments/recommendations concerning Evacuated Medical Patients, section II, page 8, paragraph g. Information is requested in the format specified in Appendix III, USARV Memorandum 525-15 to reach this office ATTN: AVHGA-P NLT COB 14 September 1969.

2 Incl  
nc

*William M. Foster*  
 Colonel, GS  
 ACofS, G1

AVHSU-OP (11 Sep 69)

S: 14 Sep 69

TO: ACofS, G1 ATTN: AVHGA-P	FROM: Surgeon	DATE: 15 Sep 69 CPT Schwicker/jms/4111	CMT 2
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Reference item concerning Evacuated Medical Patients, page 8, section II. Concur with para 2b, 1st Ind, Headquarters, 23d Artillery Group.

FOR THE SURGEON:

2 Incl  
nc

*J. J. Calbeck*  
 Colonel, MSC  
 Executive Officer

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AVHGC-CA

SUBJECT: Analysis and Evaluation of Operational Reports - Lessons Learned for  
6th Bn, 27th Arty

TO: Chief, DST Div

FROM: Chief, Opns Div

DATE: 10 SEP 1987 CMT 2  
MAJ Weaver/jht/4636

Reference item concerning Projo Carts for 8" and 175mm Projectiles, page 7, paragraph 2b(1); 1st Indorsement, paragraph 2a. Concur with 1st Indorsement. No action by USARPAC or DA is recommended.

2 Incl<sup>e</sup>  
as

*Troy H. Middleton, Jr.*  
 TROY H. MIDDLETON, JR  
 LTC, GS  
 Chief, Opns Div  
 OACofS, G3

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FROM PROTECTED MATERIAL

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AVHGA-P (11 Sep 69)

SUBJECT: ORLL for the 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery

TO: ACofS, G-3

FROM: ACofS, G-1

DATE 17 SEP 1969 CMT 3  
LTC Yellman/cjj/4455

Subject ORLL has been reviewed and comment on the only item in G-1 area of interest is furnished in comment 2.

2 Incl  
nc

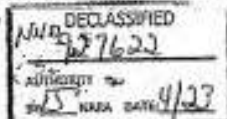
*R. V. Foster*  
 R. V. FOSTER  
 Colonel, GS  
 ACofS, G-1

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS 6TH BATTALION 27TH ARTILLERY  
APO San Francisco 96490

AVGE-YC

8 August 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery (UIC: WALSA) Period Ending 31 July 1969; RCS CSFCR-65 (RI) (U)

SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. (C) SECTION 1. Operations: Significant Activities.

a. Personnel:

(1) The 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery remained assigned to the 23d Artillery Group. The organic batteries of the battalion were not detached during this period. Battery F, 16th Artillery remained attached to this Battalion.

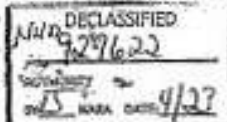
(2) At the end of the reporting period the assigned personnel strength of the battalion, including Battery F, 16th Artillery was under the authorized strength. The following shortages exist in the prescribed grades:

<u>MOS</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>AUTHORIZED</u>	<u>ASSIGNED</u>
13B4	Cunner	18	16
13B4	Section Chief	23	19
63C4	Motor Sergeant	6	3
13B4	Operation & Intelligence	12	8

(3) The morale of the battalion remained high with the R&R program the biggest morale booster. The following is a breakdown of the R&R allocations:

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS  
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 Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (RI) (U)

SITE	MAY		JUNE		JULY	
	Req	Recd	Req	Recd	Req	Recd
Hawaii	16	16	16	16	21	15
Tokyo	2	2	0	0	0	0
Hong Kong	2	2	2	2	0	0
Bangkok	10	10	7	6	11	7
Sydney	12	12	11	9	8	8
Kuala Lumpur	0	0	0	0	0	0
Taipei	1	1	1	1	2	2
Singapore	2	2	0	0	2	2
In-Country	4	4	6	6	2	2

(4) There were no significant morale or disciplinary problems. There were no Courts-Martial during this quarter. Article 15 punishment was administered as shown:

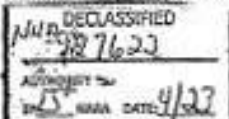
MAY	JUNE	JULY
24	31	18

(5) There were 3 KIA and 22 WIA due to hostile action during the reporting period. This is an increase of 3 KIA and 9 WIA over the last reporting period.

(6) Awards and decorations presented to members of this command include 1 Legion of Merit, 1 Distinguished Flying Cross Medal, 8 Bronze Star Medals (Valor), 1 Bronze Star Medal (Achievement), 26 Bronze Star Medals (Service), 12 Air Medals, 28 Army Commendation Medals (Valor), 3 Army Commendation Medals (Achievement), 37 Army Commendation Medals (Service) and 25 Purple Hearts.

(7) Religious services were provided by chaplains from the 1st Infantry Division and 1st Cav Division (AM) for all units.

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AVGE-YC 8 August 1969  
 SUBJECT: Operational Report of 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery (UIC: WALSA) (U)  
 Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (RI) (U)

b. Operations

(1) At present the batteries of the battalion are located as shown below:

Battery A, 6/27 Artillery, XT 80999032, Quan Loi  
 Battery B, 6/27 Artillery, YU 14360726, Phuoc Binh  
 Battery C, 6/27 Artillery, XT 97084965, Phuoc Vinh  
 Battery F, 16th Artillery, XT 82209130, Quan Loi  
 HNB, 6/27 Artillery, XT 80989031  
 Service Battery, 6/27 Artillery, YT 045096

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

Battery A, 6/27 Artillery, GS-R 1st Inf Division Artillery  
 Battery B, 6/27 Artillery, GS II FFORCEV  
 Battery C, 6/27 Artillery, GS II FFORCEV  
 Battery F, 16th Artillery, GS-R 1st Inf Division Artillery

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

(a) On 11 May, Battery F, 16th Artillery displaced three (3) 155mm howitzers to Thien Ngon to support a classified operation in that area. Although this mission was aborted, Battery F was given the mission of reinforcing 6/15 Artillery and remained at Thien Ngon for five (5) days. The platoon returned to Quan Loi the afternoon of 15 May 1969.

(b) On 13 May 69, the 8" howitzer platoon, Battery A, 6/27 Arty moved from LZ "JOE" (XT 6266) to LZ "ANDY" (XT 8190) by convoy. There was no change in mission.

(c) On 15 May a platoon of 155mm howitzers from Battery F, 16th Artillery was airlifted to Bu Dop Special Forces Camp (XU 9627) to be in Direct Support of a Camp Strike Force Operation. The platoon consisting of two (2) guns, neither of which were of the group that had just returned from Thien Ngon, received a tactical emergency mission to move at 1500 hours and had the first of thirteen (13) C-123 sorties in the air at 1630 hours. With speed and precision gained from numerous such moves, the men of Battery F had the last sortie on the ground at the new location at 1830 hours. The platoon occupied the position rapidly, was laid and registered by 1800 hours, and maintained constant readiness throughout the operation while continually improving their firing position. The operation terminated on 19 May, and

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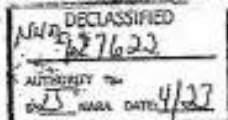
AVGE-YC 8 August 1969  
 SUBJECT: Operational Report of 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery (UIC: WALSA) (U)  
 Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSPCR-65 (RI) (U)

the platoon immediately prepared to support a second Camp Strike Force Operation. The Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) force with a forward observer from this battalion conducted operations deep into enemy held jungle. Although the force did not establish contact with NVA/VC Forces, valuable information was gathered from extensive ground reconnaissance of the area and bomb damage assessment of recent B-52 bombing missions. During this period all classes of supplies were flown by C-130 aircraft from Bien Hoa to Bu Dop. On 30 May 1969, the platoon returned to Quan Loi by C-130 aircraft.

(d) On 12 May at 0100 hours, Quan Loi Base Camp received an intense mortar/RPG attack followed by a ground attack. Although attacked directly by VC infiltrators, Headquarters Battery and Battery A fought bravely. Gallantly defending their guns and position areas by rapidly deploying reaction forces, both batteries successfully repulsed the enemy attack; killing five (5) VC and capturing large quantities of munitions and equipment. At approximately 0330 hours, Battery B, located at Phuoc Binh, came under a heavy ground attack. Early detection of two (2) attacking columns of VC and rapid deployment of artillerymen around the camp perimeter stopped the main attack. The battery provided self-illumination with its 81mm mortars. Twenty-eight (28) VC were killed in the perimeter wire, two (2) VC surrendered, and large quantities of arms and equipment were captured to include flame throwers, radios, and bangalore torpedoes. A careful search of the area found a VC Command Post and wire lines indicating a well coordinated VC attack had been defeated.

(e) On 6 June, an intense mortar/RPG attack followed by a ground attack was directed at Quan Loi Base Camp. Headquarters Battery and Battery A again deployed reaction forces that prevented penetration into the battery areas although the base camp perimeter wire had been breached. Ten (10) NVA were killed short of the battery wire, arms and munitions were found nearby, and four (4) NVA WIA, which were captured.

(f) On 23 June, the 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery assumed the responsibility for the AWCC at Quan Loi and artillery portion of the base defense. Concurrent with the placement of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment OFCON to the 1st Cav Division (AM) on 23 June 69, the 6/27 Arty's mission of GS II FFORCEV and GSR, 1st Cav Division Artillery was modified. Due to proximity of 6/27 Arty to 11th ACR this battalion was tasked with the added mission of coordinating the fires of the 11th ACR organic howitzer batteries and the fires of batteries of the 23D Arty Group positioned within the Tactical Area of Responsibility of the 11th ACR. Direct coordination and liaison was established with the 1st Cav Division (AM) Artillery. On 27 June, the responsibility for the artillery portion of the base defense was transferred to the 1st Battalion (AM), 21st Artillery.



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SUBJECT: Operational Report of 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery (UIC: WALSA) Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (RI) (U)

(g) On 23 June, the 1st Infantry Division departed from Quan Loi, passing responsibility for the area to the 1st Cav Division (AM). The mission of Battery A, 6/27 Arty and Battery F, 16th Arty was changed to GSR, 1st Cav Division (AM) Artillery. The mission of Battery B and Battery C remained GS II FORCEV.

(h) On 31 July, 175mm Gun Platoon, Battery C, 6/27 Arty displaced by convoy from Phuoc Vinh (Camp Gorvad) for a "HIP SHOOT" in the vicinity of Grid YT 030631. The mission of the 175mm Gun Platoon was GSR, 1st Cav Division (AM) Artillery. The platoon placed eighty (80) rounds on suspect base camps in the vicinity of Grid YT 2474. The platoon returned to Phuoc Vinh before nightfall the same day.

(i) Throughout the period two (2) forward observer parties were provided. One (1) FO party was provided to the CIDG for an operation at Bu Dop in the northern portion of the III CTZ from 24 May to 30 May 69, and one (1) FO party was provided to the 22nd ARVN Airborne operating throughout Tay Ninh Province from 27 July to 29 July 69.

(3) The following number of missions were fired with the total amounts of ammunition expended as indicated:

UNIT	MISSIONS FIRED	AMMUNITION EXPENDED		
		155MM	175MM	8"
Battery A, 6/27 Arty	2445		4005	3679
Battery B, 6/27 Arty	2245		3407	2998
Battery C, 6/27 Arty	2300		3058	3485
Battery F, 16th Arty	3617	14,162		
TOTALS: 10,607		14,162	10,470	10,162

### c. Training.

(1) The monthly combat evaluations of each firing battery FDC has continued. As a result, the proficiency of the FDC's has improved considerably.

(2) The battalion received M-16 rifles during the reporting period and initiated a training program for the smooth transition from the M-14 rifle.

(3) In-Country replacement training continues to be conducted by the batteries within seven (7) days of the new individual replacement's arrival.

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 Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (RI) (U)

(4) Mandatory Training Subjects:

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>REQUIRED HOURS</u>	<u>HOURS COVERED</u>
Command Information	12	12
Geneva Convention	1	1
Safety	3	3
Armed Forces Censorship	1	1
Character Guidance	3	3
Weapon Familiarization	3	3
Survival, Evasion, and Escape	2	2
Firing Crew-Served Weapons	12	12
Medical Training	1	2

d. Intelligence.

(1) During the reporting period aerial observers of this battalion flew 169 VR missions consisting of 366 hours. 302 significant sightings resulted in 101 fire missions conducted by the battalion's aerial observers.

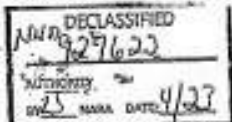
(2) Target surveillance credited the battalion with 100 confirmed enemy killed by artillery (KBA) and 38 (possible) enemy killed by artillery (KBA). Continuing the attack against hard target complexes, the battalion destroyed 306 bunkers.

(3) The following security clearances were granted or validated during the reporting period. Top Secret (clearances validated - 7), Secret (clearances validated - 40), Final Secret (clearances granted - 82), Confidential (clearances granted - 3).

e. Logistics and Maintenance. This unit engaged in normal supply, maintenance, and ammunition support and service activities during the reporting period. Daily air resupply of all classes of supply was made to Battery B, 6/27 Arty throughout the period. During May 69, one platoon, (3 - 155mm howitzers) of Battery F, 16th Arty received supplies as needed by air while located at Bu Dop.

f. Organization. None

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### g. Other.

(1) Medical. The health of the command continues to be good. Emphasis was placed on sanitation and the prevention of malaria through classes conducted by the Battalion Surgeon. Classes were also presented on venereal diseases. The medical non-effective rate was minimal.

### (2) Civic Action.

(a) The civic action program was quite active during this period. In addition to the three (3) schools, five (5) orphanages and two (2) scout troops, the battalion has picked up three (3) new projects. Service Battery adopted an orphanage to aid and rebuild; Battery C assisted in the construction of a refugee village; and Headquarters, A, and F/16 Batteries worked with the Binh Long Province Hospital to bring better care to the patients.

(b) Large quantities of food were distributed to the schools and orphanages along with school supplies, books, pencils, and crayons.

(c) As a result of the increased enemy activity, only Battery C has had a continuing MEDCAP program. However, the battalion aid station has an open door policy to all Vietnamese laborers and has treated over 935 Vietnamese and Montagnard civilians.

(3) Communications. During the latter part of May 1969, this organization received five (5) Radio Teletype Sets AN/GRC-142, replacing five (5) AN/GRC-46 sets on hand. The new equipment incorporates the AN/GRC-106 Single Sideband Radio, permitting more accurate netting over a greater range than possible with the AN/GRC-46. These radio sets are also equipped with air conditioners, which should increase equipment life by cutting down on heat damage and environmental damage.

### 2. (C) SECTION 2. Lessons Learned: Commander's Observations, Evaluations, and Recommendations.

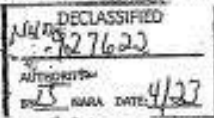
a. Personnel. None

b. Operations. ("Projo Carts for 8" and 175mm Projectiles).

(1) OBSERVATION. Many accidents can be avoided through the use of "projo carts" to transport ammunition. The use of a "projo cart" eliminates possible damage to the round itself or to handling personnel.

(2) EVALUATION. During wet weather and/or nighttime operations, projectiles may be dropped because they are slippery or because the ammunition hand-

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8 August 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery (UIC: WALSA) Period Ending 31 July 1969, RGS CSFOR-65 (RI) (U)

ler trips over an unseen object. Many personnel accidents and possible artillery incidents due to premature bursts can be prevented through the use of "Projo Carts" to transport rounds.

(3) RECOMMENDATION. That this information be disseminated to all Field Artillery units.

- c. Training. None
- d. Intelligence. None
- e. Logistics and Maintenance. None
- f. Organization. None
- g. Other. Evacuated Medical Patients

(1) OBSERVATION. Over the past several months the medical section has had a particular problem with the follow-up of hospitalized patients.

(2) EVALUATION. Once the patients are taken from the battery area it may be several days to a week before the battalion is notified where the patient is or his disposition. One (1) of the battalion's medics is assigned the task of visiting the hospitals in the Long Binh area daily. Even this has not been a total solution to the problem. Self-addressed envelopes have been sent with the patients, but again the results have been poor.

(3) RECOMMENDATION. That one (1) individual from each major command be assigned as a liaison between the hospitals and the major command. His duties would be to notify the major command of the disposition of the patients. The major command could then notify the subordinate units of their personnel's disposition.

*Leonard F.B. Reed Jr.*  
LEONARD F.B. REED JR.  
LTC, FA  
Commanding

## DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - Commander-in-Chief, United States Army Pacific
- 3 - Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam
- 2 - Commanding General, II Field Force Vietnam Artillery
- 6 - Commanding Officer, 23D Artillery Group

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