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Operational Report Lessons Learned Headquarters 6/27th Artillery Period Ending 31 Jul 1970

27TH ARTILLERY, 6TH AVN BRG 31 JULY 1970

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AUTHORITY: 28 CFR 1.7622
DATE: 4/27

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AVHRC-DST (17 Aug 70) 3d Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery (HIS: WAISAS) Period Ending 31 July 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (RI) (U)

Headquarters, United States Army Vietnam, APO San Francisco 96375 21 SEP 1970

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

1. This Headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1970 from Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery and concurs with comments of indorsing headquarters.

2. Reference item concerning "Training of Fire Direction Personnel in Generator Maintenance," page 7, paragraph 2b(1) and paragraph 2, 1st indorsement: concur in recommendation as written by HQ, II FFORCEV Artillery. USARV Pam 750-6, "Generator PM," gives information on proper operator preventive maintenance. Unit has been so advised.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

1 Incl
no

CLW
Clark W. Stevens Jr.
Captain AGC
Assistant Adjutant General

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

ORILL was staffed through:

G3OPNS: Major Reeking/4749
G4: Captain Brown/4142
Action Officer: Major Tomlinson/jam/4433
Concurrence/Nonconcurrence: None required
Suitable for Commander's Notes: Yes/No

21 SEP 1970

1 OCT 1970

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COL Jung, ACOF S, G3
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AVFB-FAC (24 Aug 70) 1st Ind
 SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery
 for Period Ending 31 July 1970. RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

DA, HEADQUARTERS, II FIELD FORCE VIETNAM ARTILLERY, APO 96266 31 AUG 1970

TO: Commanding General, II Field Force Vietnam, ATTN: AVFBC-RE, APO 96266

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Quarterly Operational Report-Lessons Learned, of the 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery, and concurs with the content of the report.

2. Reference paragraph 2b(1); an additional course of instruction in generator operation and maintenance would be of great benefit to those personnel assigned to Vietnam. Specialized maintenance problems, peculiar to Vietnam, make it mandatory that those individuals responsible for generator operation be thoroughly versed in maintenance techniques.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


 VICTOR F. KREBS
 MAJ, FA
 Adjutant

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AVFEG-RE (17 Aug 70) 2nd Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of 6th Battalion,
27th Artillery for Period Ending 31 July 1970 RCS CSFOR-65
(R2) (U)

DA, HQ, II Field Force Vietnam, APO San Francisco 96266 1 SEP 1970

THRU: Commanding General, US Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVFEG-RE, APO 96375
Commander-In-Chief, US Army Pacific, ATTN: GPOF-WF, APO 96538

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

This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report - Lessons
Learned for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1970 from 6th
Battalion, 27th Artillery and concurs with the comments of the
indorsing headquarters.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

1 Incl
nc

W.C. Bartel, Jr.
W. C. BARTEL, JR.
CPT, AGC
Asst AG

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AVHGC-OC

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

12 SEP 1970

TO: Ch, DST Div, G3

FROM: Ch, Opns Div, G3

DATE: CMT 2
Major Roeming/ama/4749

This division has reviewed the attached ORLL and has no substantive comment.

2 Incl
no

for Lt Col D. H. Hyslop
DOUGLAS A HUF
Colonel, GS
Ch, Opns Div, OACoTS, G3

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FROM CLASSIFIED ENCLOSURES

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AUTHORITY
DATE 4/22

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AVHGD-PCM

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

TO: ACoFS, G3

FROM: G4

DATE: 12 SEP 1970 CMT 2
CPT BROWN/rr/4142

Reference item concerning training of Fire Direction personnel in generator maintenance, page 7, paragraph 2b (1) and paragraph 2, 1st indorsement. Concur in recommendation as written by HQ, II FFV Arty. USARV Pam 750-6 on Generator PM gives information on proper operator preventive maintenance.

2 Incl
as

Charles B. Davis
CHARLES B. DAVIS
Colonel, GS
ACoFS, G4

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AVFEC-RE (17 Aug 70) 2nd Ind
 SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of 6th Battalion,
 27th Artillery for Period Ending 31 July 1970 RGS CSFOR-65
 (R2) (U)

DA, HQ, II Field Force Vietnam, APO San Francisco 96266 1 SEP 1970

THRU: Commanding General, US Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVFEC-DST, APO 96375
 Commander-In-Chief, US Army Pacific, ATTN: GPOB-DT, APO 96538

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

This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report - Lessons
 Learned for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1970 from 6th
 Battalion, 27th Artillery and concurs with the comments of the
 indorsing headquarters.

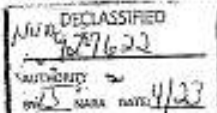
FOR THE COMMANDER:

1 Incl
 nc

W.C. Bartel
 W. C. BARTEL
 CPT, AGC
 Asst AG

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AVFB-PAC (24 Aug 70) 1st Ind
 SUBJECT: Operational Report of Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery
 for Period Ending 31 July 1970. RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)


DA, HEADQUARTERS, II FIELD FORCE VIETNAM ARTILLERY, APO 96266 31 AUG 1970

TO: Commanding General, II Field Force Vietnam, ATTN: AVFBC-RE, APO 96266

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Quarterly Operational Report-Lessons Learned, of the 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery, and concurs with the content of the report.

2. Reference paragraph 2b(1); an additional course of instruction in generator operation and maintenance would be of great benefit to those personnel assigned to Vietnam. Specialized maintenance problems, peculiar to Vietnam, make it mandatory that those individuals responsible for generator operation be thoroughly versed in maintenance techniques.

FOR THE COMMANDER:


 VICTOR F. REESE
 MAJ, FA
 Adjutant

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
 HEADQUARTERS 6TH BATTALION 27TH ARTILLERY
 APO San Francisco 96289

AVFB-FA-BC

17 August 1970

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

I. (C) Operations: Significant Activities.

A. Command Group:

(1) The 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery remained assigned to II Field Force Vietnam Artillery. During the period 1 May through 15 July 1970 this battalion was under operational control of OG II Field Force Vietnam Artillery. Since 16 July 1970, the battalion has been under operational control of CO 23d Artillery Group. Organic batteries of this organization are assigned the following tactical missions:

(a) Battery A - General Support Reinforcing 5th ARVN Division Artillery.

(b) Battery B - General Support Reinforcing 1st Cavalry Division (A) Artillery, under operational control of 2d Battalion, 12th Artillery.

(c) Battery C - General Support Reinforcing 1st Cavalry Division (A) Artillery, under operational control of 2d Battalion, 12th Artillery.

(d) Battery C, 1st Battalion, 27th Artillery - General Support (priority of fires to 5th ARVN Division, under operational control of 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery).

(2) At the end of the reporting period the assigned personnel strength of the battalion was under the authorized strength. Shortages existed in the following MOS's.

<u>MOS</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>AUTHORIZED</u>	<u>ASSIGNED</u>
13E20	FD Computer	31	24
13E40	Recon Sergeant	10	7
13Z50	FA Senior Sgt	5	4
31B20	FADAC Mechanic	2	0

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 WAISAA) Period Ending 31 July 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (RI) (U)

<u>MOS</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>AUTHORIZED</u>	<u>ASSIGNED</u>
36K20	Wireman	34	21
63C40	Motor Sgt	5	3
71T20	Maint Data Sp	5	2

(3) The morale of the battalion remained high with the R & R Program definitely the largest morale factor. The following is a breakdown of the R & R allocations:

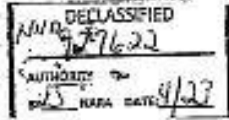
<u>STATE</u>	<u>MAY</u>		<u>JUNE</u>		<u>JULY</u>	
	<u>REQ</u>	<u>RECD</u>	<u>REQ</u>	<u>RECD</u>	<u>REQ</u>	<u>RECD</u>
Hawaii	9	10	10	8	7	6
Tokyo	2	1	2	2	1	1
Hong Kong	0	1	2	3	1	2
Sydney	17	11	12	11	7	0
Taipei	2	1	1	1	1	1
Bangkok	0	1	4	5	3	3
Manila	1	0	0	0	2	0
Singapore	0	0	1	0	0	0

(4) There were no significant morale problems. There was one Special Court Martial during this period. Article 15 punishment was administered as shown:

<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUNE</u>	<u>JULY</u>
0	4	4

(5) There were no WIA's due to hostile action during the reporting period. This is a decrease of 13 WIA's over the last reporting period.

(6) Awards and decorations presented to members of this command are as follows:



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 SUBJECT: Operational Report of 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery (JIC:
 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 (AC) 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, CS, II FFORCEV.
- Battery B, 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery, CS, II FFORCEV.
- Battery C, 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery, CS, II FFORCEV.

(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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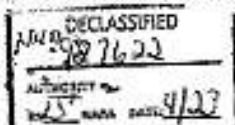
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AVFB-FA-BC 17 August 1970
 SUBJECT: Operational Report of 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery, (UIC: WAISAA) Period Ending 31 July 1970, AOS CSFGR-65 (RI) (U)

- 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 Wade 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 overturning 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 (Su 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	2751	6850	—
TOTALS:	11301	17302	8227
		155mm	
Battery C, 1st Bn 27th Arty		1881	



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17 August 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery (VIC: WAISAA) Period Ending 31 July 1970, RGS CGPCR-65 (RI) (U)

C. Training

(1) A vigorous and continuous cross training program of personnel is necessary due to the constant changeover 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.

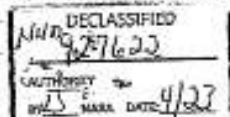
(2) In-country schools are being utilized to upgrade assigned personnel through attendance at Officer Fire Direction school, Generator Operators and Maintenance courses, and driver training conducted at battalion level. Advanced training gained through these classes has enhanced unit effectiveness.

(3) New arrivals to 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.

(A) 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
Mapper Tactics	1	1
Mobility Training	39	39
Medical Training	2	2
Communications Training (COMSEC)	4	4
Psychological Operations	1	1
	5	

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AVFB-PA-BC

17 August 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery (VIC: WAISAA) Period Ending 31 July 1970, ACS CSPOR-65 (AI) (U)

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.

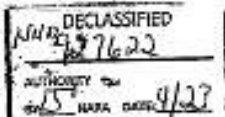
(2) Target surveillance credited this battalion with 17 confirmed enemy killed by artillery (KBA). Attacks against hard target complexes resulted in the battalion destroying one bridge, one 2 1/2 ton truck, two 3/4 ton trucks, forty six bunkers, fifteen hootches, four fighting positions, and uncovered 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 reports 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 CMMI team composed of the most qualified personnel available in the battalion in the areas of TAMP, FM, 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 those areas within the batteries. The average time spent at each battery by the team was three days.

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17 August 1970

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

G. Other

(1) Medical. The health of this command remained quite good during the reporting period. Emphasis on personal hygiene produced a favorable response. There was a steady rise in venereal disease which will receive more attention in the future. A seasonal rise in malaria occurred in spite of careful attention to mosquito control at both the unit and personal level. Drug abuse did not have a significant effect on the efficiency or job performance of the battalion personnel as a whole.

(2) Civic Action. Frequent movements of the batteries of this battalion disrupted a good portion of the MEDCAP program. The medical personnel at Song Be continued bi-weekly visits to the Montagnard villages in the area, seeing 70 to 80 patients per week. This program continues to be particularly well received.

(3) Communications. During the reporting period communications, both FM and AM, have remained at a satisfactory level. With the aid of a relay and retransmission capability at Song Be (Nui Ba Ra) the battalion tactical operations center has continuous communications with each battery regardless of their location in the III Corps area. In response to a directive from CG, II Field Force Vietnam, to encipher all FM communications, this battalion has installed secure equipment on all AN/TRC-46 radios.

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

A. Personnel. None

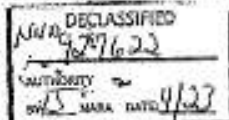
B. Operations.

(1) Training of Fire Direction Personnel in Generator Maintenance.

(a) Observations. This organization has experienced the age and problem of generator failure while in tactical positions. The large majority of these failures resulted from poor operator preventive maintenance.

(b) Evaluation. The battalion has initiated a positive program of operator preventive maintenance which has greatly improved the generator down time. However, due to limited time and a limited number of trained personnel, it is not always possible to have highly trained operators.

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AVFB-FA-30

17 August 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery (VIC: VAISAA) Period Ending 31 July 1970, RCS CSPOR-65 (RI) (U)

(c) Recommendation. The majority of generators in the Headquarters Battery and the Firing Batteries are used by the Fire Direction Center. It is recommended that a course of instruction in generator operations and maintenance for all 13E's in Advanced individual Training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

- C. Training. None
- D. Intelligence. None
- E. Logistics and Maintenance. None
- F. Communication. None
- G. Other. None

George G. Mays
 GEORGE G. MAYS
 LTC, FA
 Commanding

Incl
 as

DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - Commander-in-Chief, United States Army Pacific
- 3 - Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam
- 7 - Commanding General, II Field Force Vietnam Artillery

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AVPB-PA-EO

17 August 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery (VIC: Waikoo) Period Ending 31 July 1970, HQ: G.FOA-65 (AI) (U)

Battery Locations:

at present, the batteries of the battalion are located as shown below:

Battery A, 6th Bn, 27th Arty (2 tubes 8" and 2 tubes 175mm), XU732087, FSB ade. [FSB Wade](#)

Battery B, 6th Bn, 27th Arty (2 tubes 8" and 2 tubes 175mm), YU588178, FSB Jeanie. [FSB Jeanie](#)

Battery C, 6th Bn, 27th Arty (4 tubes 175mm), XU973291, FSB Gloria. [FSB Gloria](#)

HQ, 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery, XT850140, Phu Loi.

Service Battery, 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery, XT850140, Phu Loi.

Battery C, 1st Bn, 27th Arty (6 tubes 155mm), XT824914, Quan Loi.

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