**UNCLASSIFIED**

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<thead>
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<th>AD NUMBER</th>
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<td>AD390163</td>
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**LIMITATION CHANGES**

**TO:**
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**FROM:**
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**AUTHORITY**
AGO ltr 29 Apr 1980
TO:

UNCLASSIFIED

FROM:

CONFIDENTIAL

AUTHORITY

AGO ltr 29 Apr 1980
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Best Available Copy
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery, Period Ending 31 January 1968 (U)

1. Subject report is forwarded for review and evaluation in accordance with paragraph 5b, AR 525-15. Evaluations and corrective actions should be reported to ACSFOR OT RD, Operational Reports Branch, within 90 days of receipt of covering letter.

2. Information contained in this report is provided to insure appropriate benefits in the future from lessons learned during current operations and may be adapted for use in developing training material.
DISTRIBUTION (Cont'd)

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Chief of Engineers
Chief of Research and Development
Assistant Chiefs of Staff
Defense Documentation Center
Director, Weapons Systems Evaluation Group
CG, US Army Weapons Command
Commanding Officers
  US Army Limited War Laboratory
  6th Battalion, 27th Artillery
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 6TH BATTALION 27TH ARTILLERY
APO 96269

AVGH-XD

31 January 1963

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period ending 31 January 1963,
(RCS CSFOR-65) UIC: XZ5ZX (U)

THRU: Commanding Officer
23d Artillery Group
APO 96269

Commanding General
II Field Force Vietnam Artillery
ATTN: AVFB-PAC
APO 96256

Commanding General
United States Army Vietnam
ATTN: AVHQ-DST
APO 96575

Commander-In-Chief
United States Army Pacific
APO 96556

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development
Department of the Army
Washington, D. C., 20301

SECTION I

SIGNIFICANT HEADQUARTERS OR UNIT ACTIVITIES

1. (C) Administration and Personnel

Downgraded at 3 year Intervals
Declassified after 12 years
DOD DIR 5200.10

CONFIDENTIAL
AVGE-YC
SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 January 1968,
(RCS CSFOR-65) UIC: XZ8ZXX (U)

31 January 1968


b. The S-1 Section conducted an extensive inter and intra battalion infusion program during the reporting period.

c. During this reporting period the personnel strength of the battalion was slightly less than authorized.

d. There are no major personnel shortages in any MOS or grade in the organization.

e. There were six battle casualties (WIA) and two non-battle casualties during this reporting period.

f. Awards and decorations presented to members of this command included eight Bronze Stars (Service), four Air Medals (two w/OIC), one Army Commendation Medal, and six Purple Hearts.

g. There is no significant R&R information.

h. There were no significant morale or disciplinary problems.

i. The Medical Section of the battalion has conducted an extremely effective program of instruction relative to personal hygiene. The improved health of the command has had a good effect on morale.

j. There were no vehicle or aircraft accidents significantly affecting operations.

k. There were no significant changes in educational opportunities.

l. There were no significant religious services or problems.

2. (C) Intelligence

a. The Battalion S-2 Officer continued during this period to maintain close liaison with the Sector S-2 Officer of Binh Long Province and the S-2 Officer of Special Forces Detachment B-33, Company A, 5th Special Forces Group at Hon Quan, RVN. Significant intelligence has been obtained as a result of this close and continuous liaison.

b. During this period one O-1 aircraft has been made available to this organization on a daily basis by the 23d Artillery Group. This aircraft has allowed the Battalion to increase its visual reconnaissance capabilities.

c. The Battalion has continued its program of attacking hard targets and is constantly revising and adding targets to its active target list.
31 January 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 January 1968,
(ROCS CSFOR-65) UIC: X282ZX (U)

3. (C) Training

a. The Battalion continues to administer Specialist Tests for gun
section personnel, Fire Direction Center personnel and all incoming Company
Grade Officers. The Battalion has formed a test team which administers
proficiency tests to the firing elements of the Battalion.

b. New in-country arrivals continue to be sent to 1st Infantry Division
Jungle Devil School. This course of instruction contributes significantly to the
newly arrived soldier's ability to perform security missions in the vicinity of
his battery area.

4. (C) Operations.

a. During this reporting period the 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery
participated in the following operations:

(1) Operation "Rapid-Fire II", 6 November - 10 November 1967.
One platoon Battery "B", 1st Battalion, 64th Artillery was attached to this
organization and moved by C-130 aircraft from Bien Hoa, RVN, to Loc Minh, RVN.
This platoon provided direct support for elements of Company "A", 5th Special
Forces Group during this operation. It also reinforced fires of 5th Battalion,
15th Artillery which was supporting 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division in the
Loc Minh area. One liaison officer and two forward observers were attached
to Sigma Operations, Company "A", 5th Special Forces Group during this operation.
The liaison officer functioned as the fire support coordinator and supervised
fire planning. The forward observers accompanied maneuver units and adjusted
fire as necessary.

One liaison officer was attached to Detachment B-36, Company "A", 5th Special
Forces Group during this operation. The liaison officer functioned as the fire
support coordinator and planned fires for elements of the 6th Battalion, 27th
Artillery and the 5th Battalion, 15th Artillery who provided fire support for
the operation.

(3) During the period 19 November 1967 - 18 December 1967, one
platoon Battery "B", 1st Battalion, 64th Artillery was attached to this
organization and moved by C-123 aircraft from Bien Hoa to Bu Dop, RVN. This
platoon provided direct support for Detachment A141, Company "A", 5th Special
Forces Group. One liaison officer and one forward observer were attached to
Company "A", 5th Special Forces Group during this period. The liaison officer
functioned as the fire support coordinator for the Detachment Commander. The
forward observer accompanied maneuver units and adjusted fire as necessary.
One forward observer was attached to 1st Battalion, 49th Regiment, ARVN, during this operation. He accompanied this maneuver unit and adjusted fire as necessary. Additionally, he functioned as the fire support coordinator for the force commander and planned fires for the 1st Battalion, 27th Artillery and the 7th Battalion, 11th Artillery.

(5) During the period 11 December - 16 December 1967 one platoon Battery "B", 1st Battalion, 64th Artillery was attached to this organization and moved by C-130 from Bien Hoa, RVN, to Tong Le Chan, NVN. This platoon provided direct support for Detachment A334, Company "A", 5th Special Forces Group, conducting search and destroy operations north of Tong Le Chan.

(6) Operation "St Nick", 18 December - 25 December 1967. The attached platoon located at Tong Le Chan was moved by C-130 aircraft from Tong Le Chan to Linh Thanh, NVN. The platoon provided direct support for elements of Company "A", 5th Special Forces Group.

(7) During this period this organization has conducted a study of fuse action for heavy artillery in double and triple canopy jungle. This study was initiated to increase the effectiveness of this Battalion's artillery support. It required extensive aerial reconnaissance and a limited amount of damage assessment conducted on the ground in the target area in the vicinity of Dong Loc, NVN.

b. The following number of missions were fired with total amounts of ammunition expended.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Missions Fired</th>
<th>Ammunition Expended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Battery &quot;A&quot;</td>
<td>4632</td>
<td>15514</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battery &quot;B&quot;</td>
<td>4053</td>
<td>5594 2926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battery &quot;C&quot;</td>
<td>3126</td>
<td>5157 4209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battery &quot;E&quot; 1/24 Arty</td>
<td>3126</td>
<td>2945 5127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battery &quot;D&quot; 1/24 Arty</td>
<td>1245</td>
<td>6951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,264</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,951</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. (C) Logistics
a. During this reporting period resupply of this organization was accomplished in the following manner:

(1) Battery "A" and Battery "C" were resupplied by convoy.

(2) Battery "B" was resupplied exclusively by aircraft.

(3) Elements of Battery "B", 1st Battalion, 84th Artillery were transported and resupplied exclusively by aircraft.

b. The 610th Maintenance Battalion (DS) assumed responsibility for direct support maintenance of Battery "B" from 185th Maintenance Battalion (DS).

6. (C) Aviation: The following aviation missions, listed by sorties, were flown during this reporting period:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command &amp; Control</th>
<th>Recon</th>
<th>Artillery Adj</th>
<th>PAX</th>
<th>Cargo (tons)</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rotary Wing</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed Wing</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL:** 225 333 30 74 3.0 331

7. (U) Civic Action: The following civic action projects have been accomplished during this reporting period by this organization.

a. The Phuoc Vinh school was continually under repair while elements of the Battalion were located in Phuoc Vinh, RVN.

b. Thanksgiving and Christmas parties were given by all batteries of the Battalion for Vietnamese children.

c. The Battalion medical section has conducted ten MEDCAPS and has attended six hundred and twenty-five patients during this period in the Phuoc Vinh and Quan Loi areas.

d. A Boy Scout troop has been organized in Quan Loi.

8. (C) Communications:

a. During this period five sole user VHF circuits were obtained from the 36th Signal Battalion. These circuits are the primary means of communication used for command and fire control between the Battalion Headquarters and Batteries "B" and "C".
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SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 January 1960,
(ACS OS/0R-55) UID: X3823C (U)

b. A new antenna tower was constructed and emplaced by Headquarters
Battery which enables the Battalion Headquarters to communicate with all firing
batteries of the Battalion on FM radio.

SECTION II

PART I, OBSERVATIONS

1. (U) Personnel and Administration - None.

2. (C) Intelligence:
   a. ITEM: Target Acquisition.
      (1) DISCUSSION: This organization has been provided with one
      set of optically stabilized binoculars (Dynalens) for the purpose of evaluating
      the equipment and establishing techniques for their use. The equipment was
      found to be of great assistance in target acquisition by aerial observers.
      Observers were able to observe larger areas, in more detail, in less time, with
      the Dynalens than with presently issued 7x50 binoculars.
      (2) OBSERVATION: This equipment should be made available to
      all target acquisition agencies utilizing aerial observers.

3. (U) Training and Organization:
   a. ITEM: Sound Ranging Method of Locating Observers.
      (1) DISCUSSION: This organization tested a sound ranging method
      of locating observers which was developed by the Gunnery Department, United
      States Army Artillery and Missile School. The method was found to be effective
      and fast.
      (2) OBSERVATION: Company Grade Artillery Officers should be
      made aware of the method of locating observers by sound ranging prior to their
      arrival in RVN.

4. (C) Operations:
   a. ITEM: Fuse Selection.
      (1) DISCUSSION: This organization has conducted a study of fuse
      action for heavy artillery in double and triple canopy jungle. This study
      revealed that fuse quick is not effective against any known targets. That fuse
      delay while effective against personnel has only limited effect against fortified
      positions.
Subject: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 January 1968, (RCS CSFOR-65) UIC: XZ8ZXX (U)

(2) Observation: Fuze delay should be used when firing heavy artillery against targets in double and triple canopy jungle.

b. Item: Heavy Artillery Utilization.

(1) Discussion: Liaison officers of this organization have experienced difficulty in planning fires for several maneuver units whose commanders were reluctant to utilize heavy artillery. This reluctance was in most cases based on a lack of trust in the accuracy of heavy artillery material rather than a lack of confidence in the firing unit. This difficulty is overcome by persuasive and accurate instruction by knowledgeable personnel.

(2) Observation: Direct and early coordination must be made with supported maneuver units to insure maximum utilization is made of supporting heavy artillery. This coordination must be made by personnel experienced in the use and control of heavy artillery fires.

5. (C) Logistics:

a. Item: Ammunition Storage.

(1) Discussion: Artillery ammunition must be stored in such a manner as to reduce the possibility of destruction by fire or enemy action. Dispersing ammunition in small amounts in a large area and segregating ammunition components reduces the possibility of damage or destruction to ammunition. Proper cover, sand bags and other barrier material, reduces the risk of damage by enemy fires and also serves to protect the ammunition from the weather. Additionally, during the dry season, the area surrounding storage areas should be cleared of brush.

(2) Observation: Artillery ammunition should be dispersed within the storage area in small amounts and segregated by components. Cover against enemy fire and weather should be provided for all ammunition. Fire breaks should be utilized in the dry season.

6. (U) Other:

a. Item: Firing Battery Communications.

(1) Discussion: This organization has conducted a study of communications within its organic firing batteries and has determined that an effective communications system is needed to insure that fire commands sent by the Fire Direction Center are monitored by all personnel of each gun section. It is necessary for all gun section personnel to monitor all fire commands in order to achieve fast and accurate response. Presently each gun in the organization is equipped with a Control Radio Set C-2328A/GRA 39. This loudspeaker...
AVGE-YC

SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 January 1968,
(RCS CSFOR-65) UIC: XZ8ZXX (U)

is mounted on the hull of each M107 and M110, to facilitate gun crew members
monitoring all fire commands.

(2) OBSERVATION: Communications equipment presently authorized
for the firing batteries of this organization is not adequate to meet the
requirement of allowing all gun crew members to monitor all fire commands.
Engine noise of the M-107 and M-110 overrides the output of the authorized
loudspeakers. The vehicle engine must be operated during fire missions in
order to prevent the 5 horsepower motor from burning out due to frequent
starting and stopping.

SECTION II

PART II, RECOMMENDATIONS

1. (U) Personnel and Administration.
   None.

2. (U) Intelligence.
   None.

3. (U) Training and Organization.
   None.

4. (U) Operations.
   None.

5. (U) Logistics.

   That self-propelled artillery firing batteries be issued with a
   public address system which includes one loudspeaker, LS-103/TIQ-2, per gun.
   Availability of these public address systems would enhance the communications
   system presently found in these firing batteries by allowing each man in each
gun section to monitor fire commands when vehicle engine is being run.

SIGNED J. O'GRADY

e E Artillery
Commanding
AO: O (31 January 1966)  
1st Ind, 

OJ: Operational Report for Quarter Period Ending 31 January 1966, 
AO: C-3-0 (5) Unit: AT-12 (0) 

lll: 25th Artillery (31), #30 San Francisco #2582, 22 February 1966 

A: Commanding General, II Field Force Vietnam Artillery, ATN: O-10-0 (5) 

Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the 

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report for the 
period ending 31 January 1966 from Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery. 

2. Pertinent comments follow:


b. Reference Section II, Part I, Paragraph 3. Concur. Test re- 
sults were sent by this headquarters to II Field Force Vietnam Artillery, 
the Gunner Department at Fort Sill and the Army Concept Team in Vietnam. 

c. Reference Section II, Part I, Paragraph 4. Concur. It was 
determined that fuse quick would be effective against unprotected troops 
in heavy jungle. Tests will be continued by the heavy artillery units in 
the group. A copy of the preliminary report was sent to II Field Force 
Vietnam Artillery. 


g. Reference Section II, Part II, Paragraph 5. Concur. Require- 
ment for speaker systems was brought to the attention of II Field Force 
Vietnam Artillery. At the present time there is no authorization to draw 
this equipment. Guidance is for units to use their own resources. 

3. Correct UIC number is 5A15AA. 

[Signature]

Colonel, Artillery 
Commanding 

Copy Furnished 
Hq, 6th Bn., 27th Arty
SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned (RCS-GENR-65)

DA, HQ, II FFORCIV ARMY, APO 96266 5 MAR 1963

To: Commanding General, II Field Force Vietnam, APO 96266
Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVINC-DST, APO 96375
Commander-In-Chief, United States Army Pacific, ATTN: GPOF-01, APO 96559

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

1. (U) The quarterly report of the 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery (M41A3A) adequately reflects the operations and lessons learned during the reporting period.

2. (U) The following comments pertain to the attached Operational Reports - Lessons Learned:

   a. Reference Section II, Part I, paragraph 2 and paragraph 2a, 1st indorsement. Concur in discussion, however, it would be premature to make a firm recommendation for basis of issue at this time.

   b. Section II, Part I, paragraph 3a and paragraph 2b, 1st indorsement. Concur. Other units of this command also tested the sound ranging method of locating observers. The results showed that the technique is simple, quick and location accuracy of 150-200 meters was consistently achieved.

   c. Section II, Part I, paragraph 4a and 2c, 1st indorsement. Concur.

   d. Section II, Part I, paragraph 4b and paragraph 2d, 1st indorsement. Concur.

   e. Reference Section II, Part I, paragraph 5 and paragraph 2e, 1st indorsement. Concur.

   f. Section II, Part I, paragraph 6, Section II, Part II, paragraph 5 and paragraph 25, 1st indorsement. Concur. Recommend Self-propeled artillery units be authorized loud speaker sets, LS-103/114-2, one per gun, under NSW. Pending NSW approval, recommend SP units be authorized to draw and retain the loud speaker systems under the provisions of USAV message AVINC-D-0 6569, 230 060151Z Oct 67, subject: Temporary Loan Procedures.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

HAYWARD P. HUFFY
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding
AVFBC-RE-H (31 Jan 68)  
3rd Ind 
SUBJECT: Operational Report – Lessons Learned for Quarterly Period Ending 
31 January 1968. (RCS CSFOR-65) 

DA, HQ II FFORCEV, APO San Francisco 96266 10 MAR 1968 

THRU: Commanding General, US Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHCC(DST), APO 96375 
Commander, US Army Pacific, ATTN: GFOR-CT, APO 96558 

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

1. Subject report is forwarded. 

2. This command has reviewed the attached CRLL of the 6th Battalion, 
27th Artillery and concurs with it. 

FOR THE COMMANDER: 

[Signature]

E. M. MacRath 
CPT, ASC 
Ass't AG
AVHGC-DST (31 Jan 68) 4th Ind (U)  
CPT Arnold/twl/LBN 4485  
SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 January 1968,  
(RCS CSFOR-65) UIC: XZ8ZXX (U)  

HEADQUARTERS, US ARMY VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375 4 APR 1968  

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 January 1968 from Headquarters, 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery as indorsed.  

2. Pertinent comment follows: Reference item concerning firing battery communications, page 7, paragraph 6a; page 8, paragraph 5; 1st Indorsement, paragraph 2g; and 2d Indorsement, paragraph 2f. Equipment in excess of currently authorized allowances should be requested by MTOE, with full justification, submitted through command channels. USARV has not received an MTOE from the 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery. Since this unit has a standardized MTOE approved, and will be reorganized in mid-1968, any new MTOE submission should be based on the standardized MTOE. Intermediate headquarters should justify applicability for all like units. Temporary loan is not appropriate since the requirement is continuing, and is not an emergency.  

3. Correct Unit Identification Code is WAISAA.  

4. A copy of this indorsement will be furnished to the reporting unit through channels.  

FOR THE COMMANDER:  

C. S. NAKATSUKASA  
Captain, AGC  
Assistant Adjutant General  

Copies furnished:  
HQ 6th Bn, 27th Arty  
HQ II FFORCEV
GPOP-DT (31 Jan 68) (U) 5th Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 6th Bn, 27th Arty for Period Ending
31 January 1968, RCS CSFOR-65 (RL)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 23 APR 1969

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

This headquarters has evaluated subject report and forwarding indorse-
ments and concurs in the report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:

[Signature]

C.L. SHORT
CPT, AGC
Asst AG
**REPORT TITLE**

Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Hqs, 6th Bn, 27th Artillery (U)

**DESCRIPTION**

Experiences of unit engaged in counterinsurgency operations, 1 Nov 67-31 Jan 1968

**AUTHOR**

CO, 6th Battalion, 27th Artillery

**REPORT DATE**

31 January 1968

**TOTAL NO. OF PAGES**

14

**SPONSORING MILITARY ACTIVITY**

OACSFOR, DA, Washington, D.C. 20310