

NAVAL GUNFIRE SUPPORT



One important mission of the USCGC SPENCER on Market Time patrol was to provide Naval Gunfire Support for the troops ashore and on rivers of Viet Nam, pinning down enemy forces prior to a sweep mission, destroying enemy structures, bunkers, or sampans, or harrassing enemy forces. It is a highly coordinated mission with each unit responding with precision and accuracy, as the SPENCER crew worked in constant communication with a U.S. Army spotter airplane.



"Spotter requests four round salvo."
"Battery is released."
"Commence Fire!"

As Combat Information Center receives and integrates target coordinates from an Army spotter craft Gunnery Officer ENS John MANTYLA directs the operation from Fire Control. Ammunition handlers keep the Five Inch loaded.

