



Tank team takes target trophy

Tank crews from the Royal Canadian Dragoons (RCD) at Lahr, Germany, defeated crews from five other NATO countries to win the Canadian Army Trophy Gunnery Competition at Bergen in northern Germany, recently. They used *Leopard* battle tanks, lent by Germany. Their own *Leopards* are to be delivered beginning July 1978.

The RCD, part of Canada's 4 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group in

Germany, scored 21,020 points. Next was the Federal Republic of Germany with 20,720; Belgium, 19,230; Britain, 17,430; the Netherlands, 17,360; and the United States, 16,100.

The teams competed under conditions that duplicated combat situations as closely as possible. Crews used both cannon and machine guns to fire at moving and fixed targets, and scoring was based on a combination of time and the number of hits on targets. Bonus points were awarded for ammunition remaining after each exercise,

provided all targets were hit within the prescribed time.

The competition was conducted by Allied Forces Central Europe. The trophy, a silver model of a *Centurion* tank donated by Canada in 1963, was last won by Canada in 1967.



Captain Tom Burnie, of the Royal Canadian Dragoons, tips a champagne bottle, watched by members of the winning Canadian 55-man tank team.

Photos by Crombie McNeill



Denis Lévesque, mud-spattered but happy, relaxes after his team's victory.



The Leopard's manoeuvrability and speed – 55 mph – are two of the reasons why the Canadians were able to do so well in the competition.