

**British Empire Medal (BEM)
Frederick Bigg-Wither**

38417. Sergeant.
Royal NZ Artillery.
161 Battery

NZ Gazette Number 1 dated 15 January 1970 (*NY Honours 1970*)

CITATION

Sergeant Bigg-Wither enlisted as a Regular Force Cadet in January 1959 and graduated into the Royal Regiment of New Zealand Artillery in 1960. He was posted to 16th Field Regiment, and after qualifying on various Artillery courses was posted in 1963 as an Instructor to the National Service Training Unit.

In 1965 when 161 Battery RNZA was deployed to South Vietnam, Sergeant Bigg-Wither was selected for service with the battery and on arrival in South Vietnam was promoted to the temporary rank of Sergeant. He returned to New Zealand on completion of his tour of duty and served for fifteen months in the Regular Cadre of 22 Battery RNZA before returning to South Vietnam for a second tour **in February 1968**.

During both his tours in South Vietnam Sergeant Bigg-Wither carried out his operational duties in an exceptional manner, so much so that the consistently accurate fire that his gun crew provided with such alacrity earned him the respect of all whom he was supporting. His versatility, competence and demeanour were such that he commanded the utmost respect from all who served with him.

There is no doubt that throughout two exacting tours in South Vietnam Sergeant Bigg-Wither showed a selflessness, efficiency and devotion to the guns which is in the highest traditions of the Royal Regiment of New Zealand Artillery and brought great credit both on himself and the New Zealand Army.