E COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES

MARCH 1966 — EN ROUTE AND TRAINING ON OKINAWA

Compiled from the 2/5 Command Chronology for March 1966

1st Marine Division · Battalion Landing Team 2/5 · Western Pacific

1. Unit Overview

Unit Designation	Echo Company (E Co), 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division
Reporting Period	1–31 March 1966
Commander	1stLt D. R. Marcum (in post from 22 February 1966); Capt J. S. Cooper (from 18 March 1966)
Higher HQ	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol R. H. Uskurait); 5th Marines; 1st Marine Division
Area of Operations	Camp Schwab, the Northern Training Area and Kin Beach, Okinawa
Combat Posture	Embarked and training as Battalion Landing Team 2/5
Base of Operations	Okinawa (Camp Schwab)
Corps Area	Western Pacific (Camp Pendleton, at sea, Okinawa)

2. Commander's Summary

In March 1966 Battalion Landing Team 2/5 trained on Okinawa for Vietnam.

Company E was commanded by 1stLt D. R. Marcum (in post from 22 February 1966); Capt J. S. Cooper (from 18 March 1966); the battalion by LtCol R. H. Uskurait (in post from 22 February 1966).

No entry in the March 1966 record names Company E by itself. The 2 battalion entries listed below applied to the whole battalion, Company E included.

3. Operations Overview

Operation / Activity	Dates	Description
Embarkation, voyage and training	March 1966	No named operation appears in this month's entries for the company; activities are listed in the chronology below.

4. Chronology of Company E Activities

Compiled from the checked transcriptions of the 2/5 command chronology for March 1966 in the hotel25vv research database. No entry names Company E; the battalion-wide entries are listed. Times and grid references are as recorded; each entry ends with its source page.

Date	Activity / Events
25 Mar	The battalion landing team was activated again on March 25 as preparations for Vietnam approached completion. [Command chronology · February–April 1966, PDF p. 6]
30 Mar	Operational and administrative control of BLT 2/5 shifted from RLT-5 to the 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade on March 30. [Command chronology · February–April 1966, PDF p. 6]

5. Notes and Caveats

This file was built on 22 November 2026 in the same format as the Company H reports, directly from the checked, page-cited transcriptions of the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines command chronologies. The notes below record its sources and where the record is thin.

1. SOURCE. The entries come from Command chronology · February–April 1966 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048067).

2. HOW IT WAS COMPILED. No entry names Company E; the chronology lists the battalion-wide entries instead.

3. COMMANDER. Company and battalion commanders are taken from the monthly organisation data (Section I of each chronology) as recorded in the battalion leadership ledger.

4. CASUALTIES. Casualty figures are not totalled here. Individual losses appear in the entries as recorded; for authoritative totals see the casualty tables in the original chronology.

5. ORIGINALS. National Archives and Records Administration, Record Group 127, Records of the United States Marine Corps. For full records contact National Archives II, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park MD 20740, or Marine Corps History Division, Quantico VA 22134.

6. Sources

This document was compiled from the following primary and secondary sources:

PRIMARY SOURCES

— Command chronology · February–April 1966 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048067)

SECONDARY SOURCES

— Shulimson, Jack and Charles M. Johnson. U.S. Marines in Vietnam: An Expanding War, 1966. History and Museums Division, HQMC, 1982.

— “Echo Company.” Hotel 2/5 Combat Marines. https://hotel25vv.com

Document prepared for historical research purposes. For authoritative casualty figures, unit rosters, and engagement details, consult original 2/5 Command Chronology records at NARA RG 127. | Echo Company, 2/5 Marines, March 1966