E COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES

SEPTEMBER 1969 — TRUONG AN HAMLET

Compiled from the 2/5 Command Chronology for September 1969

1st Marine Division · III Marine Amphibious Force · I Corps, Republic of Vietnam

1. Unit Overview

Unit Designation	Echo Company (E Co), 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division
Reporting Period	1–30 September 1969
Commander	Capt J. L. McClung (1–24 September); 1stLt R. F. Conti (25–30 September)
Higher HQ	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol J. T. Bowen); 5th Marines; 1st Marine Division
Area of Operations	Truong An hamlet, Hill 65, Hill 52, Tam Hoa hamlet
Combat Posture	Combat operations, patrols and security (21 combat entries)
Base of Operations	Truong An hamlet
Corps Area	I Corps Tactical Zone, Republic of Vietnam

2. Commander's Summary

Company E’s entries for September 1969 place it most often at or near Truong An hamlet (7 of 21 entries with a named place or grid), and also at Hill 65, Hill 52, Tam Hoa hamlet.

Company E was commanded by Capt J. L. McClung (1–24 September); 1stLt R. F. Conti (25–30 September); the battalion by LtCol J. T. Bowen (1–30 September).

The battalion’s command chronology names Company E in 26 entries this month (21 combat, 4 organization, 1 civic).

On 8 September 1969: Squad ambush at AT 805549 received 200 rounds small arms and 10 82mm mortar rounds from AT 807553; returned small arms and artillery — Enemy fire ceased.

On 9 September 1969: Squad in night position at AT 815557 received 150 rounds small arms from AT 809555; returned fire and artillery — Search negative.

On 10 September 1969: At AT 863576 children brought in a claymore mine — Destroyed.

3. Operations Overview

Operation / Activity	Dates	Description
Truong An hamlet operations	September 1969	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 September 1969 in the hotel25vv research database. Only entries naming Company E are listed. Times and grid references are as recorded; each entry ends with its source page.

Date	Activity / Events
6 Sep 01:45	Bridge security squad at AT 866574 received 7 M-79, 2 B-40 and 100 rounds small arms from AT 864572; returned small arms, M-79 and 60mm mortar — Search negative [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 18]
7 Sep 10:00	Civilians brought two B-40 rockets and a booster found at AT 852563 to the Echo CP at AT 853578 — Paid 800 piasters; ordnance destroyed [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 19]
8 Sep 23:40	Squad ambush at AT 805549 received 200 rounds small arms and 10 82mm mortar rounds from AT 807553; returned small arms and artillery — Enemy fire ceased [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 21]
9 Sep 19:50	Squad in night position at AT 815557 received 150 rounds small arms from AT 809555; returned fire and artillery — Search negative [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 22]
10 Sep 09:30	At AT 863576 children brought in a claymore mine — Destroyed [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 23]
10 Sep 10:15	Squad in day position at AT 825554 took sniper fire from AT 820543; returned fire and artillery — Sniper fire ceased [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 23]
10 Sep 18:50	Recon patrol squad at AT 818559 found an M-26 with trip wire beside a trail — Blown in place [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 23]
10 Sep 19:20	Platoon in night position at AT 880563 took sniper fire from AT 873558; returned fire — Unknown [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 23]
11 Sep 19:00	Popular Forces unit with Echo in night position at AT 813548 spotted 300 VC/NVA moving east from AT 803576; artillery and 3 air strikes called — 2 secondary explosions [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 24]
11 Sep 19:20	Platoon in night position at AT 880564 saw 20 VC/NVA crossing the river at AT 884554; artillery called — Unknown [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 24]
11 Sep 21:15	Squad in night position at AT 813548 saw several lights outside the perimeter at AT 815557; 81mm mortar mission — Unknown [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 24]

Date	Activity / Events
12 Sep 17:15	Squad in a daytime blocking position at AT 895564 saw 5 VC/NVA in green and black uniforms crossing a river at AT 889555 (3 armed, 2 pulling a sampan); small arms, 81mm and artillery; enemy returned sporadic sniper fire and 4 fled into a tree line on the south bank — 1 VC/NVA KIA [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 26]
13 Sep 20:55	Squad in night ambush at AT 895564 saw 15 VC/NVA crossing the river south to north at AT 894558; small arms and 81mm — 4 VC/NVA KIA [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 26]
14 Sep 07:05	Squad patrol set in at AT 853584 spotted a VC/NVA and fired — Search negative [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 28]
14 Sep 12:02	Platoon securing the Foxtrot river crossing at AT 890559 took small arms fire from AT 886555; returned small arms, artillery, 81mm and air — 1 USMC WIA non-evac [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 28]
14 Sep 16:30	Squad in day position at AT 895564: Vietnamese children brought in a 60mm mortar dud — Destroyed [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 28]
14 Sep 18:30	Platoon in day position at AT 890560: children brought in an M-26 grenade — To be destroyed at first light [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 28]
15 Sep 11:55	Squad on a daytime rover at AT 865587 spotted an unarmed VC/NVA with a pack, white shirt and khaki shorts — 1 VC/NVA captured, turned over to S-2 [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 30]
17 Sep 12:30	Squad at an OP site at AT 898566 saw 5 VC/NVA in white with black tops crossing a river; small arms forced them into a tree line; artillery called — Negative results [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 32]
19 Sep 08:00	Squad patrol at AT 864587 found a ChiCom grenade lying on the trail — Blown in place [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 35]
20 Sep 17:30	Squad at AT 862576: Vietnamese children brought in an M-26 grenade — Destroyed [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 36]
28 Sep 09:30	Platoon in day position at AT 822572 took 7 rounds small arms and automatic weapons fire from AT 817582; artillery called — Enemy fire ceased [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 44]
28 Sep 13:30	Platoon in day position at AT 832575 took 70-75 rounds small arms from AT 826579; 81mm and artillery; search found a 105mm round with no fuze, 15 AK-47 rounds, 5 lb rice and cooked sardines — Items found [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 44]
29 Sep 08:30	Platoon moving into a new day position at AT 832575 took 6-7 rounds small arms from AT 862579 (sic); 81mm and 60mm — Search negative [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 45]
30 Sep 11:00	Squad patrol at AT 828568: Vietnamese children turned in a ChiCom grenade — Children given a meal of C rations; destroyed [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 46]
30 Sep 16:30	Platoon on a water run at AT 837573 took 15 rounds automatic fire from AT 827580; 81mm and 60mm — Search negative [2/5 ComdC Sep 1969, PDF p. 46]

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 2/5 Command Chronology Sep 1969 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048119).

2. HOW IT WAS COMPILED. Every entry in the research database whose units name Company E (Echo) for September 1969 is listed in date and time order, with the page of the chronology it was read from. Entries that name only another company are left out.

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

— 2/5 Command Chronology Sep 1969 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048119)

SECONDARY SOURCES

— Smith, Charles R. U.S. Marines in Vietnam: High Mobility and Standdown, 1969. History and Museums Division, HQMC, 1988.

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