E COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES

SEPTEMBER 1970 — AN HOA COMBAT BASE

Compiled from the 2/5 Command Chronology for September 1970

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 1970
Commander	Capt D. O. Ford (1–30 September)
Higher HQ	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol T. M. Hamlin); 5th Marines; 1st Marine Division
Area of Operations	Battalion area: An Hoa Combat Base, Baldy Combat Base (LZ Baldy), Liberty Bridge, An Tam (2)
Combat Posture	Combat operations, patrols and security (45 combat entries)
Base of Operations	With the battalion: An Hoa Combat Base
Corps Area	I Corps Tactical Zone, Republic of Vietnam

2. Commander's Summary

The battalion’s entries for September 1970 place the battalion most often at or near An Hoa Combat Base (20 of 28 entries with a named place or grid), and also at Baldy Combat Base (LZ Baldy), Liberty Bridge, An Tam (2). None of Company E’s own entries names a place.

Company E was commanded by Capt D. O. Ford (1–30 September); the battalion by LtCol T. M. Hamlin (1–30 September).

The battalion’s command chronology names Company E in 51 entries this month (45 combat, 2 civic, 2 medical, 1 movement, 1 logistics).

On 1 September 1970: Echo's E1 found and destroyed 3 box mines.

On 1 September 1970: Echo's E2C spotted 8-10 VC/NVA and called a fire mission.

On 2 September 1970: Follow-up: Echo's E2C killed 1 and captured gear (1 Sep).

3. Operations Overview

Operation / Activity	Dates	Description
With the battalion: An Hoa Combat Base operations	September 1970	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 1970 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
1 Sep 08:20	Echo's E1 found and destroyed 3 box mines [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 24]
1 Sep 16:30	Echo's E1 conducted a patrol by the Buddhist Orphanage [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 24]
1 Sep 20:15	Echo's E2C spotted 8-10 VC/NVA and called a fire mission [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 24]
2 Sep 16:00	Echo's E3A spotted 1 enemy wearing green [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 26]
2 Sep 20:15	Follow-up: Echo's E2C killed 1 and captured gear (1 Sep) [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 26]
3 Sep 14:30	Echo detained 3 females and sent them to ITT [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 28]
3 Sep 21:00	Echo's E3 received AK fire and fired 60mm [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 28]
4 Sep 11:00	Echo's E1CP observed VC/NVA in front of a helo landing [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 30]
4 Sep 19:20	Echo's E2C spotted 6 VC/NVA and called an 81 mission [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 30]
5 Sep 08:00	Echo's E2A detained 1 P/E VC/NVA [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 31]
5 Sep 12:15	Echo's E2 detained 3 Vietnamese [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 31]
5 Sep 21:00	Echo's E1 spotted 2-4 VC/NVA and fired M-79 rounds [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 31]
6 Sep 22:00	Echo's E2B spotted 1 VC/NVA with a rifle and called in artillery [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 32]
7 Sep 07:37	Echo ran an air strike on an enemy position — 1 secondary explosion [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 33]
7 Sep 17:45	Echo CP received a concussion-type grenade (VIP ordnance) [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 33]

Date	Activity / Events
9 Sep 07:20	Echo's E2B hit a command-detonated booby trap — 1 KIA and 1 P/E [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 35]
9 Sep 07:20	Follow-up: Echo's E2B had 1 missing rifle [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 35]
9 Sep 07:20	Follow-up: Echo's E2B received automatic fire [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 35]
10 Sep 08:10	Echo's E2A detained 1 male [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 36]
10 Sep 15:15	Echo's E2 was led to an M-33 booby trap by a Vietnamese boy [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 36]
10 Sep 16:30	Echo CP observed a large enemy explosion [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 36]
10 Sep 17:45	Echo's E1B received small-arms fire [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 36]
12 Sep 09:00	Echo's E3C detained 1 female VCS with rice and salt [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 38]
12 Sep 10:30	Echo's E1 found and destroyed a 60mm booby trap [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 38]
13 Sep 08:30	Echo's E2A detained 1 and found 500-600 lb of rice [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 39]
13 Sep 08:45	Echo's E3A found and destroyed 1 pressure booby trap [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 39]
15 Sep 17:45	Echo's E1C destroyed 1 155mm powder canister [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 42]
15 Sep 19:15	Echo's E3B observed 25 VC/NVA [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 42]
16 Sep 03:50	Echo's E42/E2A tripped a booby trap — 1 E/E [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 43]
16 Sep 06:20	Echo observed 4 VC/NVA with packs and rifles [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 43]
16 Sep 06:30	Echo received small-arms fire and called gunships [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 43]
16 Sep 07:45	Echo detained 1 NVA nurse [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 43]
16 Sep 07:50	Echo found and destroyed 6 RPG rounds [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 43]
16 Sep 08:00	Echo detained 2 Vietnamese [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 43]
16 Sep 09:00	Echo received a Vietnamese woman with a gunshot wound [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 43]
18 Sep 09:20	Echo's E1A found and destroyed 1 60mm illumination booby trap [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 45]
18 Sep 15:45	Echo's E1C found and destroyed 1 81mm booby trap [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 45]

Date	Activity / Events
18 Sep 19:10	Echo's E2 had one WP 60mm round injure 3 friendlies [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 45]
19 Sep 18:15	Echo's E2 reports ARVNs ambushed — 3 WIA (E) [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 46]
20 Sep 16:45	Echo's E2A found 1 female with shrapnel wounds [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 47]
23 Sep 06:50	Echo's E3 reports a casualty from an overdose of drugs [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 50]
24 Sep 18:20	Echo's E1 had one secondary explosion [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 51]
26 Sep 08:50	Echo found 1 60mm HE round with tripwire [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 53]
26 Sep 20:25	Echo's E2C opened up on an enemy ambush site [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 53]
27 Sep 07:50	Echo's E2C found 2 females with no ID cards [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 54]
27 Sep 08:45	Echo's E2C detained 2 females [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 54]
27 Sep 09:45	Echo's E2C found 1 dead body of a VC/NVA male [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 54]
27 Sep 16:30	Echo's E3A found and destroyed 1 booby trap [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 54]
28 Sep 15:05	Echo had 2 medevacs resulting from VIP ordnance [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 55]
30 Sep 13:00	Echo's E3 had a child lead them to a booby trap [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 57]
30 Sep 16:00	Echo spotted 4 VC/NVA and fired small arms [2/5 ComdC Sep 1970, PDF p. 57]

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 1970 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201049001).

2. HOW IT WAS COMPILED. Every entry in the research database whose units name Company E (Echo) for September 1970 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 1970 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201049001)

SECONDARY SOURCES

— Cosmas, Graham A. and Terrence P. Murray. U.S. Marines in Vietnam: Vietnamization and Redeployment, 1970–1971. History and Museums Division, HQMC, 1986.

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