E COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES

OCTOBER 1970 — LIBERTY BRIDGE

Compiled from the 2/5 Command Chronology for October 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	1–31 October 1970
Commander	Capt D. O. Ford (1–31 October)
Higher HQ	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol T. M. Hamlin); 5th Marines; 1st Marine Division
Area of Operations	Liberty Bridge
Combat Posture	Combat operations, patrols and security (25 combat entries)
Base of Operations	Liberty Bridge
Corps Area	I Corps Tactical Zone, Republic of Vietnam

2. Commander's Summary

Company E’s entries for October 1970 place it most often at or near Liberty Bridge (1 of 1 entries with a named place or grid).

Company E was commanded by Capt D. O. Ford (1–31 October); the battalion by LtCol T. M. Hamlin (1–31 October).

The battalion’s command chronology names Company E in 28 entries this month (25 combat, 1 movement, 1 , 1 logistics).

On 6 October 1970: Spot report on Echo-3B broken ambush.

On 7 October 1970: Echo's E2A detected two males; one ran and was wounded.

On 7 October 1970: Echo-2B initiated an ambush.

3. Operations Overview

Operation / Activity	Dates	Description
Liberty Bridge operations	October 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 October 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
3 Oct 07:15	Echo's E3A spotted two VC/NVA [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 22]
4 Oct 17:10	Echo's E3B caught one of two Vietnamese fleeing [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 23]
6 Oct 06:15	Echo's E3A spotted one VC/NVA [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 26]
6 Oct 06:45	Echo's E2C spotted four VC/NVA [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 26]
6 Oct 11:55	Spot report on three RPG rounds at Liberty Bridge [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 26]
6 Oct 20:40	Spot report on Echo-3B broken ambush [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 26]
7 Oct 07:15	Echo's E2A detected two males; one ran and was wounded [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 28]
7 Oct 17:50	Echo-2B spotted two VC/NVA [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 28]
7 Oct 21:15	Echo-2B initiated an ambush [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 28]
9 Oct 13:00	Spot report on a 155 round [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 31]
10 Oct 16:40	A Vietnamese child informed Echo-2 of a booby trap (60mm illumination canister) — destroyed in place [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 32]
10 Oct 22:40	Echo-2C spotted three VC/NVA [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 32]
12 Oct 08:30	Spot report on a booby trap (E-1C) [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 35]
14 Oct 19:10	Spot report from Echo 1 [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 38]
20 Oct 20:25	Echo casualty report [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 44]
20 Oct 20:45	Echo spot report [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 44]
21 Oct 07:00	Spot report Echo 1 [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 45]
22 Oct 10:55	Echo's E-2 found 15 bombs at grid 964445 and blew them in place [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 47]
23 Oct 06:20	Echo's E1C leaving an ambush site at grid 133412 received four rounds — 1 USMC WIA [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 48]
23 Oct 09:45	Echo's E3B apprehended one Vietnamese male, 20 [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 48]

Date	Activity / Events
23 Oct 14:45	Echo's E2 checked 26 Vietnamese carrying foodstuff wrapped in paper of classified nature [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 48]
23 Oct 15:15	Echo's E1B observed a Vietnamese at a well who fled, leaving clothing and documents [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 48]
24 Oct 07:45	Echo's E2C at grid 11604005 apprehended one male with assorted U.S. uniforms [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 50]
24 Oct 10:15	Echo's E1C at grid 137417 found assorted Vietnamese documents in plastic wrappings [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 50]
24 Oct 10:45	Echo's E1C at grid 143417 found one VC/NVA male shot three times [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 50]
25 Oct 15:15	Echo's E2C at grid 121402 engaged one VC/NVA with small arms — 1 VC/NVA KIA [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 51]
25 Oct 17:45	Echo's E1A at grid 122418 captured one VC/NVA, 20 years old [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 51]
27–31 Oct day unstated	At the end of the month adverse weather affected the delivery of supplies, and for the first time this year emergency resupply was needed for elements of Hotel and Echo. Army and Marine Corps helicopters carried it out under adverse conditions. The weather report adds that increased rain and the residual effects of Typhoon Kate hampered movement and resupply at the end of the period. [2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 9; 2/5 ComdC Oct 1970, PDF p. 7]

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 Oct 1970 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201049002).

2. HOW IT WAS COMPILED. Every entry in the research database whose units name Company E (Echo) for October 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 Oct 1970 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201049002)

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

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, October 1970