F COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES

FEBRUARY 1968 — ARVN ARMORY, HUE

Compiled from the 2/5 Command Chronology for February 1968

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

1. Unit Overview

Unit Designation	Foxtrot Company (F Co), 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division
Reporting Period	1–29 February 1968
Commander	Capt M. P. Downs (1–29 February)
Higher HQ	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol E. C. Cheatham Jr.); 5th Marines; 1st Marine Division
Area of Operations	ARVN armory, Hue, Treasury Building, Hue (#70), Hue prison, Public Health Building, Hue (#52)
Combat Posture	Combat operations, patrols and security (31 combat entries)
Base of Operations	ARVN armory, Hue
Corps Area	I Corps Tactical Zone, Republic of Vietnam

2. Commander's Summary

Company F’s entries for February 1968 place it most often at or near ARVN armory, Hue (21 of 28 entries with a named place or grid), and also at Treasury Building, Hue (#70), Hue prison, Public Health Building, Hue (#52).

Company F was commanded by Capt M. P. Downs (1–29 February); the battalion by LtCol E. C. Cheatham Jr. (1–29 February).

The battalion’s command chronology names Company F in 33 entries this month (31 combat, 2 movement).

On 1 February 1968: Foxtrot moved from Phu Bai (Task Force X-Ray reserve) to Southern Hue, south of the LCU Ramp by helicopter.

On 1 February 1968: Capt Michael P.

On 3 February 1968: Foxtrot (YD76972193) began the attack on the Treasury Building (#70, YD76972183) and took 4 B-40 rounds and heavy fire from the Li Loi Primary School (#192, YD77052180); two supporting tanks knocked out.

3. Operations Overview

Operation / Activity	Dates	Description
ARVN armory, Hue operations	February 1968	No named operation appears in this month's entries for the company; activities are listed in the chronology below.

4. Chronology of Company F Activities

Compiled from the checked transcriptions of the 2/5 command chronology for February 1968 in the hotel25vv research database. Only entries naming Company F are listed. Times and grid references are as recorded; each entry ends with its source page.

Date	Activity / Events
1 Feb 15:00	Foxtrot moved from Phu Bai (Task Force X-Ray reserve) to Southern Hue, south of the LCU Ramp by helicopter. Capt Michael P. Downs' Foxtrot, which had relieved Golf as Task Force X-Ray reserve the day before, was lifted into southern Hue under the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines. Machine-gun fire from the Citadel walls shortly after 1500, but the CH-46s "landed south of the LCU Ramp with minimum difficulty." The LCU Ramp is at YD 773 225 in Kindred (p. 109); the landing point itself has no grid in the history. (From the official history; the 2/5 chronology has no separate entry for this move.) [U.S. Marines in Vietnam · The Defining Year, 1968, PDF p. 192; Bill Kindred, Location of Bases in Vietnam (list of bases, a, PDF p. 109]
1 Feb	Capt Michael P. Downs' Foxtrot, which had relieved Golf as Task Force X-Ray reserve the day before, was lifted into southern Hue under the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines. Machine-gun fire from the Citadel walls shortly after 1500, but the CH-46s "landed south of the LCU Ramp with minimum difficulty." The LCU Ramp is at YD 773 225 in Kindred (p. 109); the landing point itself has no grid in the history. (From the official history; the 2/5 chronology has no separate entry for this move.) [U.S. Marines in Vietnam · The Defining Year, 1968, PDF p. 192; Bill Kindred, Location of Bases in Vietnam (list of bases, a, PDF p. 109]
3 Feb 15:45	Foxtrot (YD76972193) began the attack on the Treasury Building (#70, YD76972183) and took 4 B-40 rounds and heavy fire from the Li Loi Primary School (#192, YD77052180); two supporting tanks knocked out [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 11]
4 Feb 10:30	Foxtrot took sniper fire attacking the Treasury; a squad assaulted — 2 NVA/VC KIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 12]
4 Feb 12:00	Foxtrot fired 4 E-8 CS launchers and seized the Treasury under gas, then fought inside with .45 pistols — 8 USMC WIA, 6 NVA/VC KIA, AK-47, SKS, B-40 launcher captured [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 13]
4 Feb 19:04	Foxtrot fired a LAAW into a bunker at YD77002180; secondary explosions — 22 NVA/VC KIA, 1 POW (an NVA warrant officer), 5 AK-47s captured [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 13]

Date	Activity / Events
5 Feb 05:32	Foxtrot gassed a bunker at YD77002180 — 3 NVA/VC KIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 13]
5 Feb 18:16	Foxtrot's 2nd Platoon entered a building at YD76732154, killed 5 and freed LtCol Khoa, the Thua Thien Province Chief and Mayor of Hue, and his bodyguard — 5 NVA/VC KIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 13]
6 Feb 13:05	Foxtrot (YD765211) attacked a force at YD764213 — 5 USMC WIA, 15 NVA/VC KIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 13]
8 Feb 07:10	Foxtrot silenced a sniper at YD76302076 — 2 USMC WIA, 2 NVA/VC KIA, 1 POW [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 15]
11 Feb 12:00	A Foxtrot strong point (YD75822097) hit by a B-40 and heavy fire — 1 USMC KIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 18]
12 Feb 08:56	Foxtrot (YD76102095) hit by a B-40 — 2 USMC WIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 19]
12 Feb 11:44	Foxtrot (YD756209) took 12 60mm rounds — 1 USMC WIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 19]
12 Feb 15:40	Foxtrot (YD75702088) with an M-48 tank assaulted YD75642095 — 4 USMC WIA, 9 NVA/VC KIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 20]
12 Feb 18:05	Foxtrot (YD75772087) setting in for the night took 8 grenades from spider holes and assaulted — 3 USMC WIA, 2 NVA/VC KIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 19]
13 Feb 11:31	Foxtrot secured Building Complex #162 (YD758206) and attacked toward YD759205 — 2 USMC WIA, 1 NVA/VC KIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 20]
13 Feb 13:51	Foxtrot (YD759207) — 2 USMC WIA, 3 NVA/VC KIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 21]
13 Feb 16:00	Foxtrot again under fire and 60mm mortars — 1 USMC KIA, 1 USMC WIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 21]
14 Feb 09:15	A Foxtrot platoon (YD762206) took 4 B-40 rounds — 3 USMC WIA, 3 NVA/VC KIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 20]
14 Feb 13:20	A Foxtrot platoon on patrol (YD758207) — 1 USMC WIA, 2 NVA/VC KIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 21]
14 Feb 14:25	Foxtrot CP (YD75952085) hit by one mortar round — 6 USMC WIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 21]
15 Feb 14:18	A Foxtrot platoon patrol (YD759206) took heavy fire and 2 B-40s — 1 USMC KIA, 4 USMC WIA, 10 NVA/VC KIA, AK-47 captured [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 22]
17 Feb 10:30	A Foxtrot platoon patrol (YD759206) used flame throwers — 3 USMC WIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 25]
19 Feb 17:31	Foxtrot and H&S took sniper fire across the Phu Cam River — 3 USMC WIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 25]
21 Feb 18:00	A Foxtrot sniper (YD757209) — 1 NVA/VC KIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 27]
22 Feb 11:44	A Foxtrot platoon patrol (YD760217) — 2 USMC WIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 27]

Date	Activity / Events
25 Feb 05:30	A Foxtrot listening post (YD76251930) hit by a B-40 — 3 USMC WIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 29]
25 Feb 13:40	Foxtrot attacked an enemy position at YD754195 and seized it — 1 USMC KIA, 11 USMC WIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 29]
26 Feb 08:33	Foxtrot and Golf relieving an OP (YD758195) took 13 82mm rounds — 2 USMC KIA, 3 USMC WIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 29]
26 Feb 10:18	Foxtrot (YD754198) took fire and 20 60mm rounds; 81s, naval gunfire and 155s fired — 3 USMC WIA, 12 NVA/VC KIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 29]
26 Feb 15:53	Foxtrot (YD753191) took fire and 20 60mm rounds — 4 USMC WIA, 4 NVA/VC KIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 29]
27 Feb 02:42	Foxtrot (YD754194) took one 82mm round — 2 USMC WIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 31]
29 Feb	Foxtrot took sniper fire twice while advancing — 1 USMC WIA, 2 NVA/VC KIA [2/5 ComdC Feb 1968, PDF p. 31]

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 U.S. Marines in Vietnam · The Defining Year, 1968; Bill Kindred, Location of Bases in Vietnam (list of bases, airfields and landing zones with grids); 2/5 Command Chronology Feb 1968 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048100).

2. HOW IT WAS COMPILED. Every entry in the research database whose units name Company F (Foxtrot) for February 1968 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

— U.S. Marines in Vietnam · The Defining Year, 1968

— Bill Kindred, Location of Bases in Vietnam (list of bases, airfields and landing zones with grids)

— 2/5 Command Chronology Feb 1968 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048100)

SECONDARY SOURCES

— Shulimson, Jack, Leonard A. Blasiol, Charles R. Smith and David A. Dawson. U.S. Marines in Vietnam: The Defining Year, 1968. History and Museums Division, HQMC, 1997.

— “Foxtrot 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. | Foxtrot Company, 2/5 Marines, February 1968