F COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES

JULY 1969 — HENDERSON HILL

Compiled from the 2/5 Command Chronology for July 1969

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	1–31 July 1969
Commander	Capt R. N. Kingrey (1–21 July); Capt K. R. Furr (22–31 July)
Higher HQ	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol J. H. Higgins); 5th Marines; 1st Marine Division
Area of Operations	Henderson Hill, LZ Lily, Phu Lac (6) combat outpost, Hill 65
Combat Posture	Combat operations, patrols and security (38 combat entries)
Base of Operations	Henderson Hill
Corps Area	I Corps Tactical Zone, Republic of Vietnam

2. Commander's Summary

Company F’s entries for July 1969 place it most often at or near Henderson Hill (11 of 31 entries with a named place or grid), and also at LZ Lily, Phu Lac (6) combat outpost, Hill 65.

Company F was commanded by Capt R. N. Kingrey (1–21 July); Capt K. R. Furr (22–31 July); the battalion by LtCol J. H. Higgins (1–31 July).

The battalion’s command chronology names Company F in 43 entries this month (38 combat, 4 movement, 1 medical).

On 1 July 1969: platoon moving into position at AT 890555 received 10 rounds from two VC/NVA; returned fire and assaulted — two NVA medical packs captured.

On 1 July 1969: platoon in blocking positions at AT 891554 saw three VC/NVA 150 m west at AT 888553; opened fire — 2 VC KIA (one man, one woman), cartridge belt and 3 grenades.

On 1 July 1969: moving into night positions at AT 865545 received small arms fire from AT 865542; returned fire and swept — 3 USMC WIA non-evac.

3. Operations Overview

Operation / Activity	Dates	Description
Operation Arizona	140800H – 181915H June 1967 (2/5 participation; the S-2 lists the operation as 15–19 June); previously listed as 13–26 June	The 2/5 S-3 journal is headed “FORSYTH GROVE” for 1–3 July.
Operation Forsyth Grove	010800H – 032400H July 1969 (5th Marines Command Chronology). Units moved into blocking positions during the night of 30 June – 1 July.	The 2/5 S-3 journal is headed “FORSYTH GROVE” for 1–3 July.

4. Chronology of Company F Activities

Compiled from the checked transcriptions of the 2/5 command chronology for July 1969 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 Jul 06:30	platoon moving into position at AT 890555 received 10 rounds from two VC/NVA; returned fire and assaulted — two NVA medical packs captured [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 13]
1 Jul 07:00	platoon in blocking positions at AT 891554 saw three VC/NVA 150 m west at AT 888553; opened fire — 2 VC KIA (one man, one woman), cartridge belt and 3 grenades [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 13]
1 Jul 08:30	in a blocking position searched a hootch and bunker at AT 891554 finding VC documents, medical equipment and clothes; detained three VC suspects nearby — 3 VCS detainees [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 13]
1 Jul 18:32	moving into night positions at AT 865545 received small arms fire from AT 865542; returned fire and swept — 3 USMC WIA non-evac [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 13]
1 Jul 19:15	receiving resupply at AT 865542 took three incoming M-79 rounds; returned fire, searched next morning — 1 NVA KIA [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 13]

Date	Activity / Events
1 Jul	The 2/5 S-3 journal is headed “FORSYTH GROVE” for 1–3 July. At 0630 on 1 July a Foxtrot platoon was “moving into position at AT890555”, and at 0700 a Foxtrot platoon was “in blocking positions at AT891554”; Echo was at AT897527 by 1210 (PDF p. 13). The narrative counts “three company sweep and block type operations” in July (PDF p. 5). The official history: Forsyth Grove was a 5th Marines cordon and search in a two-kilometer-square area of the northern Arizona with 1/5, 2/5 and 1/7; “the 2d Battalion covertly completed a crossing of the Song Thu Bon and occupied blocking positions to the east”, and 1/7 closed the trap before sunrise on the 1st (printed page 193). [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 13; 2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 5]
1 Jul–06:30	Foxtrot (Operation Forsyth Grove) moved from Phu Lac (6) area to Blocking positions, Operation Forsyth Grove (AT 891 554) (means not stated). Operation Forsyth Grove, a 5th Marines cordon and search in the northern Arizona with 1/5, 2/5 and 1/7. The 2/5 S-3 journal is headed “FORSYTH GROVE” for 1–3 July and “SEARCH AND CLEAR” again from 4 July (July 1969 chronology, PDF pp. 13–20); the narrative counts “three company sweep and block type operations” in July (PDF p. 5). The official history: “the 2d Battalion covertly completed a crossing of the Song Thu Bon and occupied blocking positions to the east”, and 1/7 closed the trap “before sunrise on the 1st” (printed page 193). Journal 1 July: “0630 While moving into position at AT890555, a platoon from Company F received 10 rounds small arms fire”; “0700 A platoon from Company F in blocking positions at AT891554” (PDF p. 13, printed journal page 1). The 30 June journal (June 1969 chronology, PDF p. 48) records no move, so the start time and the means are not stated. (Added 18 Nov 2026.) [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 13; 2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 5]
2 Jul 06:28	at AT 872548 apprehended a 30-year-old man with no ID — 1 detainee [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 16]
2 Jul 13:55	on sweep at AT 872529 found a dead VC about 20 years old killed by small arms — 1 VC KIA [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 16]
2 Jul 15:00	at AT 877523 detained a man with pack marks on his shoulders — 1 detainee [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 16]
2 Jul 15:15	at AT 881524 found two partly filled graves with a man and a woman wrapped in NVA camouflage — 1 female VC KIA, 1 NVA KIA [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 16]
2 Jul 18:10	at AT 899541 found a frightened man with no ID — 1 detainee [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 16]
3 Jul 07:00	on sweep at AT 893545 caught a man running into a treeline; pack marks on his body — 1 detainee [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 17]
3 Jul	The last Forsyth Grove entries are on 3 July: Foxtrot “on sweep at AT893545” at 0700, Echo at AT896557 and AT900557 at 0745 and 0830 (PDF p. 18). From 4 July the journal is headed “SEARCH AND CLEAR” again, with Foxtrot sweeping at AT935500 and an Echo platoon on patrol at AT935528 (PDF p. 20). The official history: after the three-day operation “Lieutenant Colonel Higgins’ Marines returned to Phu Lac (6) and reassumed security for Liberty Bridge and Road (North)” (printed page 193). [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 18; 2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 20]
3 Jul	Foxtrot (Operation Forsyth Grove) moved from Forsyth Grove area (AT 893 545) to Phu Lac (6) area (means not stated). End of Operation Forsyth Grove. Foxtrot’s last Forsyth Grove entry is 0700 on 3 July “on sweep at AT893545” (PDF p. 18); on 4 July, under “SEARCH AND CLEAR”, Foxtrot is sweeping at AT935500 (PDF p. 20). The official history: after the three-day operation “Lieutenant Colonel Higgins’ Marines returned to Phu Lac (6) and reassumed security for Liberty Bridge and Road (North)” (printed page 193). The return is not logged; date and means not stated. (Added 18 Nov 2026.) [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 18; 2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 20]

Date	Activity / Events
4 Jul 09:00	Marines on sweep at AT 935500 were charged by a water buffalo; at the last moment they killed it — 1 water buffalo [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 20]
5 Jul 08:00	found a dud 105mm round outside its lines at AT 937497 — destroyed [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 22]
5 Jul 21:00	at AT 935497 took 10-20 rounds from four enemy at AT 934495; returned fire with organic weapons, 81mm, 60mm and artillery — negative [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 22]
5 Jul 22:55	squad in ambush at AT 935497 saw two VC at a treeline at AT 932497; fired M-79 and small arms, checked next morning — negative [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 22]
6 Jul 12:50	a Marine moving through tall grass to his night position set off a pressure-type 60mm round at AT 938525 — 2 USMC KIA, 3 WIA evac, 1 non-evac [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 24]
6 Jul 12:50	sweeping at AT 938525 found a dead Vietnamese man with both legs destroyed, apparently killed by a booby trap — buried [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 24]
6 Jul 12:55	a Marine moving to provide security for the medevac helicopter set off a booby-trapped M-26 with trip wire in tall grass at AT 938525 — 2 USMC WIA evac [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 24]
6 Jul 14:50	on sweep at AT 944528 found a pressure-detonated 60mm booby trap in grass — destroyed [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 24]
7 Jul 09:00	on patrol at AT 954513 apprehended five men aged 40-45 with no ID — 5 detainees [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 27]
7 Jul 11:00	a Marine at AT 955516 threw a C-ration box about 10 m outside the perimeter and set off a booby-trapped M-26 with trip wire — 2 WIA non-evac [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 27]
7 Jul 11:00	platoon at AT 955525 saw about 30 VC/NVA carrying bags moving SE at AT 964525; opened fire and called an aerial observer — negative [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 27]
7 Jul 13:15	platoon at AT 952534 saw 10-12 VC/NVA moving in a column at AT 953534; opened fire with small arms killing a woman about 25 — 1 VC/NVA KIA [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 27]
7 Jul 23:14	in night positions at AT 948518 heard about three enemy moving in a stream bed 25 m outside the perimeter; fired M-26, small arms, M-79, 60mm — negative [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 27]
8 Jul 08:30	platoon found two 500-lb bomb shells with the explosive removed at AT 978519 and AT 977578 [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 29]
8 Jul 09:00	platoon found a bunker complex with equipment at AT 961522 and detained six men nearby — 21 ChiCom grenades, cartridge belt, 7 entrenching tools, 10 clips 5.56, 3 wallets, 80 lb rice, 100 lb corn, documents captured, 6 detainees [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 29]
11 Jul 15:40	a Marine on sweep at AT 914495 was bitten by a black and yellow snake — 1 non-battle evac [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 34]
12 Jul 04:55	pushing to the objective a Marine set off a pressure mine believed to be a 4-lb box mine — 1 WIA evac [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 35]
12 Jul 06:15	in a night position at AT 884476 the Foxtrot 2d Platoon leader set off a 6-lb box mine — 1 WIA evac [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 35]

Date	Activity / Events
12 Jul 08:00	platoon in a blocking position at AT 898502 was charged by a water buffalo and shot it [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 35]
12 Jul 08:10	a Marine at AT 898505 fired at movement behind him; checking, he found two slightly wounded Vietnamese children — sent to the German hospital for examination [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 35]
12 Jul 08:15	platoon at AT 898505 saw ten VC/NVA with packs and rifles entering a treeline at AT 885505; 81mm mission — unknown [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 35]
13 Jul 20:25	squad moving to an ambush site took an incoming ChiCom grenade from 10 m at AT 916504 — 2 WIA non-evac [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 38]
14 Jul 20:45	squad moving to an ambush site at AT 917508 saw one armed VC/NVA crossing and two more armed on the east side of the road at AT 910505; 81mm mission — 2 propaganda signs captured [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 39]
15 Jul 15:30	a Foxtrot OP at AT 917509 saw a woman with no ID walking on the road at AT 916504 — 1 detainee [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 40]
15 Jul 20:20	moving to an ambush site a Marine set off a booby-trapped M-26 with trip wire at AT 908505 — 1 WIA evac [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 40]
17 Jul 19:30	squad going to an ambush site at AT 911515 took fire from seven enemy in a treeline at AT 905510; returned fire and called 81mm — negative [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 43]
17 Jul 22:15	squad in ambush at AT 908512 saw four VC/NVA moving NE 35 m away; opened fire with small arms and M-79; the enemy returned fire with 25-35 rounds and fled — negative [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 43]
19 Jul 06:15	a killer team moving through a village at AT 906519 saw two VC/NVA trying to hide; apprehended them and three more men, none with ID — 5 detainees [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 47]

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 Jul 1969 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048117); U.S. Marines in Vietnam · High Mobility and Standdown, 1969; 2/5 Command Chronology Jun 1969 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048116).

2. HOW IT WAS COMPILED. Every entry in the research database whose units name Company F (Foxtrot) for July 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 Jul 1969 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048117)

— U.S. Marines in Vietnam · High Mobility and Standdown, 1969

— 2/5 Command Chronology Jun 1969 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048116)

SECONDARY SOURCES

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

— “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, July 1969