F COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES

JANUARY 1970 — LIBERTY BRIDGE

Compiled from the 2/5 Command Chronology for January 1970

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 January 1970
Commander	1stLt T. F. Murray (1–31 January)
Higher HQ	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol J. T. Bowen; LtCol F. D. Leder); 5th Marines; 1st Marine Division
Area of Operations	Liberty Bridge, An Tam (2), Phu Loc (6) refugee hamlet, Duc Duc District headquarters
Combat Posture	Combat operations, patrols and security (31 combat entries)
Base of Operations	Liberty Bridge
Corps Area	I Corps Tactical Zone, Republic of Vietnam

2. Commander's Summary

Company F’s entries for January 1970 place it most often at or near Liberty Bridge (8 of 16 entries with a named place or grid), and also at An Tam (2), Phu Loc (6) refugee hamlet, Duc Duc District headquarters.

Company F was commanded by 1stLt T. F. Murray (1–31 January); the battalion by LtCol J. T. Bowen (1–14 January); LtCol F. D. Leder (15–31 January).

The battalion’s command chronology names Company F in 40 entries this month (31 combat, 5 organization, 3 movement, 1 medical).

On 4 January 1970: Moving along a trail at AT 945532 on the approach march, Foxtrot tripped a 60mm booby trap, causing 3 secondary explosions from a daisy chain 15 m apart — 1 USMC KIA, 13 WIA, medevac completed.

On 4 January 1970: On a sweep at AT 954547 Foxtrot took about 10 rounds of AK fire from 50 m to the front — Area checked, negative.

On 4 January 1970: On a sweep at AT 923540 Foxtrot took 100-150 rounds of AK fire from treelines at AT 974550 and 972548; enemy estimated 8-10; returned fire — 1 USMC WIA, medevac completed.

3. Operations Overview

Operation / Activity	Dates	Description
Liberty Bridge operations	January 1970	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 January 1970 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
4 Jan 05:15	Moving along a trail at AT 945532 on the approach march, Foxtrot tripped a 60mm booby trap, causing 3 secondary explosions from a daisy chain 15 m apart — 1 USMC KIA, 13 WIA, medevac completed [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 20]
4 Jan 10:45	On a sweep at AT 953547 a Foxtrot Marine's trip flare went off in his flak jacket pocket — 3rd-degree burns to hands, arms and chest; emergency evac [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 20]
4 Jan 11:15	On a sweep at AT 954547 Foxtrot took about 10 rounds of AK fire from 50 m to the front — Area checked, negative [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 20]
4 Jan 16:50	On a sweep at AT 923540 Foxtrot took 100-150 rounds of AK fire from treelines at AT 974550 and 972548; enemy estimated 8-10; returned fire — 1 USMC WIA, medevac completed [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 20]
4 Jan – 9 Jan	"From 4–9 January the Battalion (-), consisting of Echo and Fox Companies, conducted a Reconnaissance in Force on Go Noi Island"; afterwards "A company was maintained on the Island for the remainder of the month" (PDF p. 6). Mode not stated. (From the January 1970 chronology, read 18 Nov 2026.) [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 6]
8 Jan 10:50	Foxtrot platoon on search and destroy at AT 956523 found a booby trap: a C-ration can holding an M-26 — Destroyed in place [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 30]
11 Jan 10:10	In day positions at AT 922546, Vietnamese children brought 10 TNT charges, 2 M-26 grenades and a 60mm illumination round to the Foxtrot CP — Children paid 500 piasters; ordnance blown in place [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 36]
11 Jan 20:20	Foxtrot in night positions at AT 922545 had movement around its perimeter; area checked and fragged — Negative results [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 36]

Date	Activity / Events
12 Jan 17:20	Vietnamese children brought into the Foxtrot position at AT 922545 an M-26 grenade and an M-16 magazine with 18 rounds — Children paid 200 piasters; ordnance blown in place [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 40]
13 Jan 10:25	A Foxtrot squad on its way to a checkpoint at AT 936544 found tools, a new bunker and a lookout tower; the bunker was 15x10 ft reinforced with 4-5 ft of earth, the tools on top of bamboo thickets — All blown in place [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 42]
14 Jan 12:45	Foxtrot CP at AT 922545 bought 2 M-79 HE rounds and 2 105mm rounds from Vietnamese children for 1,000 piasters — Destroyed in place [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 44]
14 Jan 15:00	Foxtrot platoon on patrol at AT 941544 found a 10-ft canoe at one end of the island — Boat destroyed [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 44]
14 Jan 15:30	At AT 924543 Vietnamese brought Foxtrot about 4 folders, 6 notebooks and other documents — Children paid 3 boxes of chow; documents to S-2 [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 44]
15 Jan 19:00	Foxtrot CP in night positions at AT 965555 took about 25 rounds of AK fire; returned fire — Negative results [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 46]
16 Jan 11:00	A Foxtrot platoon on a day patrol at AT 968558 found a bunker in elephant grass at the edge of a treeline — Bunker destroyed [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 48]
16 Jan 16:50	Foxtrot in night positions at AT 966556 took 4 incoming 60mm rounds and about 100 rounds of AK-47 fire; 3 of the 60mm rounds were air bursts and 1 went off on the ground; returned fire and called air, artillery and 81s — Area checked, negative [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 48]
17 Jan 08:15	Moving to a new position at AT 954554, Foxtrot tripped an M-26 booby trap with a trip wire lying across a trail — 3 USMC WIA, medevac completed [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 50]
17 Jan 08:15	Foxtrot moved from Last reported position (AT 966 556) to Reported position (AT 954 554) (means not stated). Moving to a new position at AT 954554, Foxtrot tripped an M-26 booby trap with a trip wire lying across a trail. Result: 3 USMC WIA, medevac completed. Starting point is Foxtrot's last reported position (16 Jan 1650), not stated in this entry. [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 50]
17 Jan 11:00	Moving into a new position at AT 963541, 2 Foxtrot platoons found 2 recently used bunkers and a dud 250-lb bomb — Bunker and bomb destroyed in place [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 50]
18 Jan 13:00	A Foxtrot squad at an OP at AT 964543 saw a VC/NVA in a brown shirt and black shorts moving southwest; checking the area, they took an M-26 grenade — 1 USMC WIA non-evac; search negative [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 52]
18 Jan 15:30	A Foxtrot squad on patrol at AT 958532 saw a VC/NVA with a rifle in blue uniform running northeast; pursued; villagers said 3 VC/NVA had fled on the first warning — Negative [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 52]
19 Jan 14:00	A Foxtrot squad on patrol at AT 955536 saw 3 VC/NVA in jungle utilities and black pajamas heading west at AT 952536; pursued into heavy undergrowth — Negative [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 54]
19 Jan 14:50	A Foxtrot squad on a day patrol at AT 984530 saw 3 VC/NVA in blue uniforms carrying weapons at AT 983530; fired small arms — Negative results [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 54]

Date	Activity / Events
19 Jan 15:15	A Foxtrot squad on patrol at AT 977526 found a 3x5 bunker with cooked rice and other food — Bunker destroyed [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 54]
20 Jan 16:45	Securing the area near the new company position at AT 984530, a Foxtrot platoon found a partly destroyed bunker built of hardwood beams and bamboo shoring; inside was an M-79 round booby-trapped with a trip wire — Bunker and round destroyed in place [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 58]
21 Jan 08:50	A Foxtrot squad on patrol at AT 975524 saw a VC/NVA at AT 973522 crossing a river; fired small arms — Negative [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 60]
21 Jan 17:45	Sitting in a company position at AT 984529, Foxtrot took about 25 rounds of AK fire; returned fire — Negative [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 60]
22 Jan 08:40	A Foxtrot squad on a day patrol at AT 978524 found a fortified 8x10 bunker hidden by high grass, with 20 lb of rice and assorted VC/NVA clothing — Rice and bunker destroyed; clothing sent to the rear [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 64]
22 Jan 09:50	A Foxtrot squad on a day patrol at AT 981518 saw 3 VC/NVA running south; fired small arms and called an aerial observer — Area checked, negative; 1 pack, 1 ChiCom grenade, 1 M-26, 1 AK-47 magazine found [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 64]
22 Jan 12:05	Checking out the area at AT 985513, a Foxtrot squad found four aiming stakes of bamboo poles 4-5 ft high lined up with Recon bunkers — Stakes destroyed in place [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 64]
22 Jan 12:30	A Foxtrot squad on patrol at AT 985517 found a basket of clothing and fish; the clothing was NVA (green) — Clothing sent to the rear [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 64]
22 Jan 19:45	Foxtrot's 3rd platoon (F3B) reached OP Durham [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 66]
23 Jan 11:15	A Foxtrot platoon on a day patrol at AT 978514 saw 2 VC/NVA heading south; opened fire — 1 VC/NVA captured [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 68]
23 Jan 17:15	Foxtrot CP in night positions at AT 984529 took 30 rounds of AK fire; returned fire and swept, finding an RPG round near some bunkers and documents — Bunkers and RPG round destroyed; documents to the rear [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 68]
24 Jan 12:30	A Foxtrot squad on patrol at AT 954530 saw 6 VC/NVA suspects moving west toward Phu Loc (6); called 81s — Negative [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 74]
24 Jan 13:45	Follow-up: Foxtrot at AT 990524 went out with engineers to destroy a bunker complex — Bunkers blown in place [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 74]
24 Jan 14:30	A Foxtrot squad on patrol at AT 948515 took 60 AK-47 rounds from the southwest and saw 12-15 enemy running into a treeline; fired small arms — Negative [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 74]
24 Jan 16:30	On the move at AT 981523, a Foxtrot squad took 75 rounds of AK fire from a sniper to the southwest — 1 USMC WIA non-evac, medevac completed [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 74]
25 Jan 09:20	A Foxtrot platoon on patrol at AT 976519 found 2 booby traps, an M-26 and a ChiCom, both with trip wires — Destroyed in place [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 78]
30 Jan 21:55	On the perimeter (Golf sector) at AT 858464, a Foxtrot platoon took about 4-5 M-79 rounds from the west and one ChiCom grenade, which exploded near the base of a bunker; the M-79 rounds landed on the perimeter; returned fire with small arms, M-79 and 60mm — Area to be checked at first light [2/5 ComdC Jan 1970, PDF p. 100]

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 Jan 1970 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048123).

2. HOW IT WAS COMPILED. Every entry in the research database whose units name Company F (Foxtrot) for January 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 Jan 1970 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048123)

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.

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