F COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES

DECEMBER 1970 — BALDY COMBAT BASE (LZ BALDY)

Compiled from the 2/5 Command Chronology for December 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 December 1970
Commander	Capt E. J. Easton Jr.(?) (1–31 December)
Higher HQ	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol T. M. Hamlin); 5th Marines; 1st Marine Division
Area of Operations	Baldy Combat Base (LZ Baldy)
Combat Posture	Combat operations, patrols and security (26 combat entries)
Base of Operations	Baldy Combat Base (LZ Baldy)
Corps Area	I Corps Tactical Zone, Republic of Vietnam

2. Commander's Summary

Company F’s entries for December 1970 place it most often at or near Baldy Combat Base (LZ Baldy) (2 of 2 entries with a named place or grid).

Company F was commanded by Capt E. J. Easton Jr.(?) (1–31 December); the battalion by LtCol T. M. Hamlin (1–31 December).

The battalion’s command chronology names Company F in 30 entries this month (26 combat, 3 movement, 1 organization).

On 7 December 1970: One member of Foxtrot hit an M-26 booby trap — E/medevac.

On 10 December 1970: Foxtrot's F2B found a cook fire with enough food for four people; area searched — Negative.

On 16 December 1970: Foxtrot's F-3 located a base camp; on entry received small-arms fire, returned — 2 VC/NVA KIA and two AK-47s.

3. Operations Overview

Operation / Activity	Dates	Description
Baldy Combat Base (LZ Baldy) operations	December 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 December 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
1 Dec 11:00	Foxtrot's F3C at grid 017406 located a small harbor site; one M-16 bipod [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 20]
2 Dec 11:00	Foxtrot's F1B at grid 071405 located a small cave — Negative [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 20]
3 Dec 11:00	Foxtrot's F2C at grid 003406 located a campsite with a small hootch and clothing [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 21]
5 Dec 14:00	Foxtrot's F3B at grid 015403 located a small base camp with ammo and U.S. 782 gear [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 22]
6 Dec 10:00	Foxtrot CP called an air strike at grid 024405 — one secondary explosion [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 22]
7 Dec 10:00	One member of Foxtrot hit an M-26 booby trap — E/medevac [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 23]
7 Dec 12:00	Foxtrot's F3B found one 500-lb bomb at grid 015402 [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 23]
7 Dec 15:00	F2 observed movement at grid 032417; small arms — Negative [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 23]
10 Dec 10:00	Foxtrot's F-2 found a 250-lb bomb at grid 025412, destroyed in place [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 24]
10 Dec 11:00	Foxtrot's F2B found a cook fire with enough food for four people; area searched — Negative [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 24]
12 Dec 10:00	Foxtrot's F2B found a grave containing two bodies in green uniforms, a photo and documents [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 25]
13 Dec 12:00	Foxtrot's F2C apprehended one VC/NVA male with ten AK rounds and a green uniform [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 26]
15 Dec 12:00	Foxtrot CP received one 61mm round — No casualties [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 27]

Date	Activity / Events
16 Dec 11:00	Foxtrot's F-3 located a base camp; on entry received small-arms fire, returned — 2 VC/NVA KIA and two AK-47s [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 27]
16 Dec 14:00	Foxtrot's F-3 located more gear at the base camp: 782 gear, ordnance and clothing [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 27]
18 Dec 11:00	Foxtrot's F1B located a cave with a small amount of small-arms ammo and ordnance [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 28]
18 Dec 13:00	Foxtrot's F3 resumed search of caves at grid 023433 and found additional documents, medical gear and pictures [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 28]
19 Dec 10:00	Foxtrot's F-3 returned to a base camp, found one body KIA and that the enemy had used the camp since it was discovered [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 29]
19 Dec 11:00	Foxtrot's F-1 located a base camp at grid 023434 with a small amount of food and documents [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 29]
19 Dec 12:00	Foxtrot's F-2 located 12 caves at grid 002386, destroyed all caves [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 29]
22 Dec 15:00	Foxtrot's F3 located a base compound under construction and destroyed it; a small amount of clothing and a pack [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 31]
22 Dec 17:16	Foxtrot Company extracted at 1716 and returned to Baldy Combat Base [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 31]
23 Dec 10:00	Command chops Foxtrot OPCON to 2/5 [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 31]
27 Dec 10:30	Foxtrot's F2 at grid 065403 spotted four VC/NVA with packs, three males and one female in green uniforms; small arms; search found one LAAW, 782 gear and documents [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 33]
27 Dec 11:55	Foxtrot's F3 at grid 055404 located a natural cave complex of ten caves: 500 lb of rice, one K-44 rifle, a pack with clothing, books and used smoke grenades [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 33]
27 Dec 13:30	Foxtrot inserted at grid 087402 to provide security for a downed chopper; QRF extracted at 1405 after the chopper was repaired [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 33]
27 Dec 16:25	Foxtrot CP at grid 061397 had one medevac from a booby trap believed to be a 105 round [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 33]
28 Dec 14:00	Foxtrot's F1 found four hootches and three bunkers — Negative [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 34]
29 Dec 09:12	Foxtrot's F1 extracted and returned to Baldy Combat Base [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 35]
30 Dec 12:00	Foxtrot at grid 107461 conducted a cordon and search operation and detained two VC [2/5 ComdC Dec 1970, PDF p. 35]

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 Dec 1970 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201049004).

2. HOW IT WAS COMPILED. Every entry in the research database whose units name Company F (Foxtrot) for December 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 Dec 1970 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201049004)

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