G COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES

MAY 1966 — HILL 69 (BATTALION CP, CHU LAI)

Compiled from the 2/5 Command Chronology for May 1966

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

1. Unit Overview

Unit Designation	Golf Company (G Co), 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division
Reporting Period	1–31 May 1966
Commander	Capt J. M. O'Rourke (from 1 May 1966); 1stLt L. Boone III (from 26 May 1966)
Higher HQ	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol R. H. Uskurait; LtCol Walter Moore); 5th Marines; 1st Marine Division
Area of Operations	Battalion area: Hill 69 (battalion CP, Chu Lai), Thanh My Trung (1) (Echo patrol base), Hill 22 (Hotel, Chu Lai)
Combat Posture	Combat operations, patrols and security (24 combat entries)
Base of Operations	With the battalion: Hill 69 (battalion CP, Chu Lai)
Corps Area	I Corps Tactical Zone, Republic of Vietnam

2. Commander's Summary

The battalion's entries for May 1966 place the battalion most often at or near Hill 69 (battalion CP, Chu Lai) (6 of 7 entries with a named place or grid), and also at Thanh My Trung (1) (Echo patrol base), Hill 22 (Hotel, Chu Lai). None of Company G's own entries names a place.

Company G was commanded by Capt J. M. O'Rourke (from 1 May 1966); 1stLt L. Boone III (from 26 May 1966); the battalion by LtCol R. H. Uskurait (from 1 May 1966); LtCol Walter Moore (from 23 May 1966).

The battalion's command chronology names Company G in 27 entries this month (24 combat, 2 movement, 1 organization).

On 1 May 1966: The squad returned small-arms fire and searched the area, destroying four caves.

On 2 May 1966: Golf returned small-arms and automatic-weapons fire, then destroyed caves found during the search.

On 2 May 1966: After a shot near the ambush position, Marines searched nearby houses and sent two men to the interrogation team; one identified himself as an RMK worker.

3. Operations Overview

Operation / Activity	Dates	Description
With the battalion: Hill 69 (battalion CP, Chu Lai) operations	May 1966	No named operation appears in this month's entries for the company; activities are listed in the chronology below.

4. Chronology of Company G Activities

Compiled from the checked transcriptions of the 2/5 command chronology for May 1966 in the hotel25vv research database. Only entries naming Company G are listed. Times and grid references are as recorded; each entry ends with its source page.

Date	Activity / Events
1 May 09:30	A Golf platoon brought two men detained during its sweep to the interrogation team. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 8]
1 May	The squad returned small-arms fire and searched the area, destroying four caves. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 8; Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 50]
2 May 11:50	Golf returned small-arms and automatic-weapons fire, then destroyed caves found during the search. The patrol reported killing a man attempting to use a grenade. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 8]
2 May evening	After a shot near the ambush position, Marines searched nearby houses and sent two men to the interrogation team; one identified himself as an RMK worker. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 8]
3 May 10:30	A Golf patrol's contact developed into a joint operation lasting until evening, with artillery and air support. One Marine was killed and six wounded; several enemy-loss figures were estimates rather than confirmed counts. The first reinforcements could not cross an open rice paddy under heavy fire. Helicopters brought Echo and the rest of Golf into the action. Two Echo Marines were wounded in flight, and a helicopter crew chief was also wounded. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 9; Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 52]
8 May 00:40	Golf's position took two mortar rounds and small-arms fire. Both wounded Marines were treated at the aid station and returned to duty. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 11]
8 May 09:30	Marines assaulted a village after incoming fire, finding a trench and stakes. Further shots interrupted the clearance; a later search found no opposing force. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 12]

Date	Activity / Events
9 May 01:10	Defenders fired toward a suspected sniper in a tree. The first-light search found no evidence to confirm a casualty. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 12]
9 May 11:20	The patrol used small arms, rockets and supporting mortars, then assaulted the position after the opposing force withdrew. The wounded Marine was evacuated by helicopter. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 12]
14 May 19:35	The patrol could not locate the shooter, observed the area for ten minutes and continued to its assigned position. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 14]
15 May 10:40	A tank crew took fire after throwing a track. Golf sent security while repairs were made, allowing the tank to continue. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 15]
15 May 10:45	The patrol evacuated the wounded man by helicopter to the 1st Medical Battalion. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 15]
15 May 11:50	Marines returned fire and saw four men withdraw, but their search did not reestablish contact. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 15]
15 May 19:35	Unable to locate the shooter or return fire, the patrol continued its mission. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 15]
16 May 20:30	Golf and an attached artillery battery returned fire, after which the shooting stopped. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 16]
18 May 19:00	Rifles, grenade launchers and mortars silenced the firing. The subsequent search found no opposing force. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 16]
20 May 11:00	The patrol used rifle fire, grenade launchers, rockets and mortars before contact broke. Its wounded Marine was evacuated. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 17]
26 May 01:00	The squad searched after firing but did not locate the man again. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 18]
27 May 21:30	Ly Tin reported a large armed force in nearby valleys. The battalion fired artillery overnight and prepared a reconnaissance in force for the next morning; the report was not yet confirmed. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 18]
28 May 07:00	2/5 issued Fragmentary Order 5-66 for Operation Intruder. Reinforced Golf, less part of its strength, would conduct the reconnaissance in force. Echo, also less part of its strength, remained in battalion reserve to exploit any contact. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 18]
28 May 17:00	Operation Intruder ended after a thorough search. Golf found no enemy force and no evidence of recent enemy traffic. The battalion reported gaining experience reconnoitering the area and coordinating infantry with supporting arms. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 18]
28 May during the operation	Reinforced Golf moved into the suspected area with tanks, Ontos, artillery and mortar support. An aerial observer was on station. Echo remained in reserve while Golf searched the valleys. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 18]

Date	Activity / Events
28 May	At 2130 on May 27, Ly Tin District Headquarters passed on an uncategorized report of about 300 Viet Cong in valleys west of the battalion's positions. They were said to be wearing utilities and carrying a 57mm recoilless rifle, 60mm mortars, machine guns and antitank mines. This was the force reported by intelligence, not an enemy strength established by contact. The battalion called for 192 artillery rounds against the reported area, followed by harassing and interdiction fire through the night. The chronology places the valleys between BT 403079 and BT 403067, and between BT 411073 and BT 402079; those references describe the suspected area rather than confirmed enemy positions. The next morning, reinforced Golf, less some of its strength, went in as the reconnaissance-in-force element. Tanks, Ontos, artillery and mortars supported the search, and an aerial observer was on station. Echo, also less some of its strength, remained in battalion reserve, ready to exploit any contact. The chronology records the Intruder order at 0700 on May 28 and the operation's termination at 1700. Golf found neither an enemy force nor signs of recent enemy traffic after searching the suspected area. Intruder did not confirm the intelligence report or produce a battle with the reported force. The battalion nevertheless valued the ground reconnaissance and the experience coordinating infantry and supporting arms in an area it had seldom entered. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 18]
29 May 15:15	The patrol used rockets and mortars, then followed two figures into dense brush without reestablishing contact. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 18]
29 May 21:45	The following morning's patrol found no further contact. The firing-source grid is incomplete in the transcription. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 18]
30 May 14:00	Marines collected ammunition, explosives and documents. A supporting tank fired from Ontos Ridge and destroyed the cave; the report also records two enemy dead. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 18]
31 May 09:45	Return fire set two houses alight and ammunition began exploding. Three suspects were brought out of a burning house; another house, found booby-trapped, was demolished. [Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-actio, PDF p. 19]

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 Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-action report (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048069).

2. HOW IT WAS COMPILED. Every entry in the research database whose units name Company G (Golf) for May 1966 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

— Command chronology · May 1966, including Wyoming after-action report (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048069)

SECONDARY SOURCES

— Shulimson, Jack and Charles M. Johnson. U.S. Marines in Vietnam: An Expanding War, 1966. History and Museums Division, HQMC, 1982.

— “Golf 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. | Golf Company, 2/5 Marines, May 1966