G 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	Golf Company (G Co), 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division
Reporting Period	1–31 July 1969
Commander	1stLt A. R. Finlayson (1–31 July)
Higher HQ	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol J. H. Higgins); 5th Marines; 1st Marine Division
Area of Operations	Henderson Hill, Phu Lac (6) combat outpost, Hill 42, Liberty Bridge
Combat Posture	Combat operations, patrols and security (33 combat entries)
Base of Operations	Henderson Hill
Corps Area	I Corps Tactical Zone, Republic of Vietnam

2. Commander's Summary

Company G's entries for July 1969 place it most often at or near Henderson Hill (19 of 32 entries with a named place or grid), and also at Phu Lac (6) combat outpost, Hill 42, Liberty Bridge.

Company G was commanded by 1stLt A. R. Finlayson (1–31 July); the battalion by LtCol J. H. Higgins (1–31 July).

The battalion's command chronology names Company G in 38 entries this month (33 combat, 5 organization).

On 1 July 1969: a Marine clearing fields of fire at AT 905532 found a cache of NVA equipment — NVA maps, documents, pictures, 25 rounds 9mm captured.

On 2 July 1969: squad on patrol at AT 913505 took fire from AT 928505 and AT 934512; returned small arms, 60mm, 81mm — negative.

On 2 July 1969: squad at AT 924504 took heavy small arms fire from AT 926505; called supporting arms — negative.

3. Operations Overview

Operation / Activity	Dates	Description
Henderson Hill operations	July 1969	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 July 1969 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 Jul 10:25	right flank of the road sweep found an M-26 with trip wire in grass at AT 912502 — destroyed [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 13]
1 Jul 16:00	a Marine clearing fields of fire at AT 905532 found a cache of NVA equipment — NVA maps, documents, pictures, 25 rounds 9mm captured [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 13]
2 Jul 09:00	squad on patrol at AT 913505 took fire from AT 928505 and AT 934512; returned small arms, 60mm, 81mm — negative [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 16]
2 Jul 09:45	squad at AT 924504 took heavy small arms fire from AT 926505; called supporting arms — negative [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 16]
2 Jul 12:55	squad at AT 905532 found a man hiding in tall grass watching Golf's perimeter — 1 VCS detainee [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 16]
3 Jul 09:15	engineers with Golf's road sweep found a booby-trapped 105mm canister with two M-26 grenades inside, pressure detonation, at AT 916513 — destroyed [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 17]
3 Jul 09:15	engineers found a booby-trapped M-26 inside a C-ration can, pressure detonation, at an observation post site frequently used by Marines (AT 916513) — destroyed [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 17]
3 Jul 10:00	a Marine at an observation post at AT 916505 discovered a booby-trapped M-26 grenade with trip wire tied to a stake used for shelter by OP personnel — destroyed [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 17]
3 Jul 10:04	Golf's road sweep found a booby-trapped 105mm illumination canister filled with explosives and set with trip wire at AT 916513 — destroyed [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 17]
4 Jul 09:00	squad on patrol at AT 907519 took small arms fire from a treeline at AT 900510; directed 81mm and swept, finding two signs in Vietnamese warning that the area was dangerous — 2 signs captured [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 20]

Date	Activity / Events
4 Jul 10:00	a VC turned himself in to Golf at AT 926525 — 1 VC Chieu Hoi [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 20]
5 Jul 23:00	squad in ambush at AT 913492 saw 8-10 VC/NVA with packs and weapons 10 m from its position moving NW; opened fire with small arms and M-26 grenades — 3 VC/NVA KIA; 2 AK-47s, two 9mm pistols with holsters, 3 packs, field glasses, flashlights, hammock, poncho, rice, medicine, wallets, books, documents captured; many blood trails and drag marks [narrative: one of the dead was the battalion commander of the 3rd Sapper Battalion] [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 22]
6 Jul 10:00	during a cordon and sweep at AT 945516 an 18-year-old woman came to rally — 1 Chieu Hoi [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 24]
6 Jul 11:20	engineers on Golf's road sweep found three booby traps (two smoke grenades filled with explosive, one M-26), all with trip wires, at AT 913513 — destroyed [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 24]
7 Jul 11:45	squad in an OP at AT 911499 found a booby-trapped 105mm round, pressure detonation — destroyed [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 27]
8 Jul 14:40	a Golf OP at AT 917509 detained three men and a woman — 4 detainees [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 29]
8 Jul 19:50	squad moving to night positions found a booby-trapped M-26 in a C-ration can with the pin pulled — destroyed [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 29]
10 Jul 13:45	squad OP found a booby-trapped M-26 with trip wire in grass at AT 914503 — destroyed [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 32]
10 Jul 14:25	the same OP found another by a footpath at AT 913505 — destroyed [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 32]
10 Jul 22:25	a squad moving to a night patrol area at AT 920516 was fired on by an estimated enemy platoon with B-40 rockets, claymore mines, ChiCom grenades and automatic weapons; returned fire with M-79s, automatics and small arms; enemy broke contact; artillery on withdrawal routes; a search at first light showed the enemy was probably a sapper force larger than a platoon maneuvering to attack Liberty Bridge — 2 USMC KIA, 1 WIA non-evac [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 32]
11 Jul 13:45	squad in an OP at AT 917505 took small arms fire from the NW at AT 916504; returned fire, searched — negative [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 34]
12 Jul 10:10	platoon on sweep found three booby traps of C-ration cans filled with C-4, trip wire, at AT 903517 — destroyed [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 35]
12 Jul 10:10	the Golf 3d Platoon leader set off a box mine at AT 904508 — 1 USMC KIA, 1 WIA evac, 1 non-evac [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 35]
12 Jul 10:30	squad searching at AT 906508 found a 200-lb pressure-detonation box mine in the trail — destroyed [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 35]
13 Jul 12:30	boys turned in a complete USMC gas mask at AT 935511 — rewarded 200 piasters [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 37]
13 Jul 14:05	a boy turned in a dud 60mm round — rewarded 300 piasters [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 37]
13 Jul 15:00	boys turned in a live 105mm round and 7.62mm ammunition — rewarded 300 piasters [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 37]
13 Jul 16:00	a man turned in a box of 7.62mm ammunition — rewarded 200 piasters [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 37]

Date	Activity / Events
13 Jul 16:45	boys turned in a claymore, a 20mm round and two 81mm illumination rounds — rewarded 400 piasters [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 37]
15 Jul 09:00	platoon swept AT 930494 finding many steel-reinforced bunkers not built as family bunkers; detained two women with no ID — 2 detainees [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 40]
15 Jul 20:50	in night positions at AT 929505 saw one VC/NVA through a starlight scope 350 m away at AT 933507; fired M-79 and 60mm — negative [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 40]
17 Jul 07:00	moving to the objective, the Golf 1st Platoon leader set off a booby-trapped M-26 with trip wire between two bushes at AT 928519; while security was set for the medevac a Golf Marine set off a booby-trapped 81mm illumination canister filled with C-4 — 2 WIA evac [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 43]
18 Jul 06:45	platoon on patrol at AT 927500 apprehended two men without ID — 2 detainees [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 45]
18 Jul 07:40	squad on patrol at AT 932494 found five booby traps with trip wires within a 15-m radius; called 105mm on them and saw six secondary explosions — all destroyed [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 45]
18 Jul 08:30	on patrol at AT 913500 a Marine set off a booby-trapped 82mm round, pressure detonation; only the primer exploded — 1 WIA non-evac [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 45]
18 Jul 09:00	the patrol apprehended a man within 30 m of the heavily booby-trapped area; when his house was burned, small-arms rounds were heard cooking off — 1 detainee [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 45]
18 Jul 09:30	on patrol at AT 935493 a Marine found a booby-trapped M-26 with trip wire across the trail — destroyed [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 45]
18 Jul 13:20	patrol found a booby-trapped 155mm illumination canister filled with C-4, pressure detonation, on a paddy dike at AT 936506 — destroyed [2/5 ComdC Jul 1969, PDF p. 45]

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).

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

SECONDARY SOURCES

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

— “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, July 1969