G COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES

AUGUST 1969 — TAM HOA HAMLET

Compiled from the 2/5 Command Chronology for August 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 August 1969
Commander	Capt A. R. Finlayson (1–31 August)
Higher HQ	2nd Battalion, 5th Marines (LtCol J. H. Higgins; Maj R. E. Loehe; LtCol J. T. Bowen); 5th Marines; 1st Marine Division
Area of Operations	Tam Hoa hamlet, Hill 65, Hill 425, LZ Lily
Combat Posture	Combat operations, patrols and security (35 combat entries)
Base of Operations	Tam Hoa hamlet
Corps Area	I Corps Tactical Zone, Republic of Vietnam

2. Commander's Summary

Company G’s entries for August 1969 place it most often at or near Tam Hoa hamlet (5 of 10 entries with a named place or grid), and also at Hill 65, Hill 425, LZ Lily.

Company G was commanded by Capt A. R. Finlayson (1–31 August); the battalion by LtCol J. H. Higgins (1–20 August); Maj R. E. Loehe (21–23 August); LtCol J. T. Bowen (24–31 August).

The battalion’s command chronology names Company G in 36 entries this month (35 combat, 1 organization).

On 2 August 1969: on patrol at AT 990398 apprehended a wounded NVA, who said 160 NVA, 40 of them wounded, were at AT 990396 and that 200 NVA had been in the area the day before — 1 NVA POW.

On 2 August 1969: continuing pursuit, Golf's lead elements saw a ten-man ambush on the trail at AT 988394; opened fire and assaulted, driving the enemy up the hill to the NW — 2 USMC WIA evac.

On 2 August 1969: Golf (-) sweeping east at AT 994394 saw five NVA with camouflage on their backs moving NE; fired small arms and M-79; enemy ran into thick undergrowth — unknown.

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	Vietnamese children told a Golf platoon at AT 866575 that two VC from the northern Arizona wanted to rally; the platoon moved to the river crossing and the two crossed and surrendered — 2 VC Chieu Hoi

4. Chronology of Company G Activities

Compiled from the checked transcriptions of the 2/5 command chronology for August 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 Aug 09:00	platoon on patrol searched from AT 989407 to AT 991404 and found an enemy harboring site large enough for 300-400 men: 20-30 caves under large rocks — site destroyed [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 16]
2 Aug 08:00	on patrol at AT 990398 apprehended a wounded NVA, who said 160 NVA, 40 of them wounded, were at AT 990396 and that 200 NVA had been in the area the day before — 1 NVA POW [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 17]
2 Aug 09:00	continuing pursuit, Golf's lead elements saw a ten-man ambush on the trail at AT 988394; opened fire and assaulted, driving the enemy up the hill to the NW — 2 USMC WIA evac [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 17]
2 Aug 12:50	Golf (-) sweeping east at AT 994394 saw five NVA with camouflage on their backs moving NE; fired small arms and M-79; enemy ran into thick undergrowth — unknown [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 17]
2 Aug 14:45	at AT 990398 saw about 20 NVA moving SE; called supporting arms and air strikes — unknown [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 17]
3 Aug 20:00	in night positions at AT 990412 saw a group of enemy at AT 995392 moving in a column toward them using flashlights; called 81mm, artillery and air — unknown [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 19]
5 Aug 09:00	a helicopter coming to Golf's position at AT 992384 for a medevac took small arms fire from AT 992384; a Golf platoon assaulted and the enemy fled south; 81mm, artillery and two flights of fixed wing called; searching, the platoon found an NVA hiding behind a rock and fired — 1 NVA KIA [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 22]

Date	Activity / Events
5 Aug 13:30	searching an area at AT 995385 previously hit by air, a Golf platoon found a small harboring site of three caves — 3 AK mags captured [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 22]
6 Aug 07:30	a medevac helicopter entering Golf's LZ at AT 992384 took fire from an unknown position; gunships returned fire and the evacuation was completed [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 24]
6 Aug 09:30	moving to the objective, Golf was hit by friendly air strikes — 2 USMC non-battle evac [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 24]
7 Aug 08:30	platoon at AT 995373 found an old man and a young boy hiding under a rock — 2 detainees [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 27]
7 Aug 08:45	platoon at AT 996371 found a hootch with mackerel cans, eating utensils and an NVA uniform [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 27]
7 Aug 18:00	platoon at AT 990362 saw 15 NVA with camouflage and rifles moving SW at AT 979358; called artillery — unknown [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 27]
8 Aug 07:15	platoon at AT 990362 saw eight NVA with large packs and rifles; called artillery — unknown [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 30]
8 Aug 10:00	at AT 996373 saw one NVA in green utilities hiding among rocks below the air strikes; strikes adjusted — unknown [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 30]
8 Aug 12:00	platoon at AT 984357 apprehended a woman in an area recently occupied by NVA — 1 detainee [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 30]
8 Aug 12:00	platoon at AT 990361 saw a woman running into a cave and apprehended her — 1 detainee [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 30]
8 Aug 19:15	a platoon moving to night positions had an NVA come out of the bush onto the trail and rally; it also captured a man acting suspiciously, whom the Kit Carson Scout identified as VC — 1 NVA Chieu Hoi, 1 VC POW [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 30]
8 Aug 20:15	squad setting an ambush at AT 983358 heard NVA moving on the trail; fired and the enemy fled — 2 NVA KIA, 2 AK-50s, an SKS and a pack captured [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 30]
8 Aug 20:30	at AT 996474 (as typed) saw seven lights in a ravine at AT 984373; fired 22 rounds of 106mm — unknown [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 30]
9 Aug 11:30	squad at AT 988365 apprehended a man in black pajamas who resisted capture — 1 detainee [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 33]
9 Aug 18:10	the point man of a Golf ambush saw three NVA beside the trail at AT 995374; fired small arms, 106mm and 60mm — negative [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 33]
9 Aug 19:10	moving to a night position at AT 978358 a Golf platoon saw an NVA with camouflage on his back crossing a small field; the point man wounded him; the platoon followed the blood trail until dark — negative [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 33]
9 Aug 20:45	setting a claymore at an ambush site at AT 982360, a Golf Marine was wounded by an enemy grenade thrown from an unknown position — 1 USMC WIA evac [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 33]
10 Aug 10:30	moving to the objective Golf found a human large intestine about 24 hours old at AT 990366 — 1 NVA killed by air [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 35]
10 Aug 13:45	at AT 988361 saw two NVA in green utilities at AT 986376; fired 106mm and snipers — unknown [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 35]

Date	Activity / Events
10 Aug 18:35	a resupply helicopter leaving Golf's LZ took a burst of AK-47 fire from AT 988366; supporting arms called — negative [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 35]
21 Aug 12:00	a Golf platoon apprehended a 40-year-old man in black pajamas carrying a pack of food and clothing at AT 876555 — 1 detainee [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 48]
21 Aug 13:00	a Golf squad apprehended a woman identified by a rallier as a VC nurse from her village at AT 880553 — 1 detainee [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 48]
22 Aug 07:20	a Golf sweep at AT 875554 took small arms and B-40 fire from AT 874556 — 1 WIA evac, 3 non-evac; gunships, 81mm and 60mm returned fire [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 50]
22 Aug 09:45	Golf's point man set off an M-26 with trip wire on a trail at AT 873556 — 3 WIA evac, 1 non-evac [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 50]
22 Aug 14:20	a Golf platoon patrol set off an M-26 under concrete chunks with trip wire at AT 871554 — 1 WIA evac [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 50]
23 Aug 09:45	a Golf platoon took sniper fire at AT 872547 — 1 WIA evac [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 51]
23 Aug 09:50	a helicopter resupplying Golf at AT 873556 received small arms and B-40 fire from AT 876555 - 1 WIA evac; gunships, 81mm, 60mm used — unknown [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 51]
26 Aug 07:00	Vietnamese children told a Golf platoon at AT 866575 that two VC from the northern Arizona wanted to rally; the platoon moved to the river crossing and the two crossed and surrendered — 2 VC Chieu Hoi [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 55]
30 Aug 10:00	a Golf platoon on patrol at AT 836579 received two sniper rounds from AT 834579; returned fire with artillery — negative [2/5 ComdC Aug 1969, PDF p. 59]

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 Aug 1969 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048118).

2. HOW IT WAS COMPILED. Every entry in the research database whose units name Company G (Golf) for August 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 Aug 1969 (Texas Tech University Vietnam Archive item 1201048118)

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, August 1969